Alabama

Political - 1937
Elections.

Birmingham, Ala. News
May 21, 1937

The Record Vote In The City Election

A measure of satisfaction properly can be drawn from the size of the vote in the two city primary elections just held. The vote in the first election, close to 25,000, set a new high mark in a city election, and the vote in the second primary was not far short of that figure. The fact that the vote was heavier than ever before calls for some degree of pleasure.

But let us examine the figures a little more closely. Here was a primary election determining the city's rulers for the next four years. Birmingham's population now is nearing the 300,000 mark, but only 12 per cent of that number participated in the elections.

Of course it will be pointed out that this election was only for Democrats. Even here, however, the figures are not complimentary. The County Democratic Executive Committee estimated that 40,000 Democrats were eligible to vote in the city elections. Only five out of eight did so.

When one considers not the qualified Democratic voters but those who could qualify, the picture becomes much worse.

At the time of the 1930 census there were in Birmingham 97,936 white persons 21 years of age or over. Allowing for a little increase, there are surely now in the city 100,000 white persons of voting age, or approximately one-third of the total population.

Some of these 100,000 white residents who could qualify to vote are, of course, not Democrats. But taking the 1932 national election figures as being more representative of the divisions generally, only about 15,000 of these 100,000 would be members of the Republican or other parties. That leaves 85,000 potential white Democrats in the city.

And yet less than one-half of the potential Democratic voters in Birmingham are qualified to vote, and only a little more than half of those qualified participated in the city Democratic primary. (In this analysis, Negroes are eliminated altogether as only a few Negroes vote the Democratic ticket ordinarily in Birmingham.)

Surely there is not much to boast of in regard to our voting when only 47 per cent of the possible number of white Democrats qualify to vote and only 29 per cent really mark a ballot in the primary which we point to as marking the city's heaviest vote.

These figures ought to be compared with some from other states. In the 1936 presidential election, 92.1 per cent of the population in West Virginia 21 years or over went to the polls. The percentage of adults voting in some other states was: Missouri, 85; Indiana, 82.5; Utah, 81.9; Delaware, 85.7; Illinois, 81.7, and Idaho, 80.4. The average for the entire nation in 1936 was 67.5 per cent. Even in the South, where the Negro alters the picture considerably, North Carolina could get 54.5 per cent of its adults to the polls; Florida, 37.8; Kentucky, 65.2, and Tennessee 33.5. While Birmingham boasts of getting 29 per cent of its white adult Democrats to a Democratic city primary!

What to do constitutes many problems, but it is interesting to note that Alabama is one of only 10 states which impose a poll tax upon those who would vote.

Albany-Decatur, Ala. Daily
September 17, 1937

Question

Congressman Lister Hill, first to announce his platform in the senatorial race, comes out squarely for the new deal. Mr. Hill, no doubt, will have opposition of some kind from among those who oppose most of the new deal policies.

However, since he was the first to announce and since he is considered at this stage of the game as the candidate most likely to win the democratic nomination, The Daily wants to direct one question to him and, of course, to any others who later may decide to become a candidate.

The Daily wants to know how you feel about the federal lynching bill.

The Daily doesn't care to know that you casually oppose it, or that you do not think it good legislation.

The Daily wants to know, point blank, if you oppose all sorts of federal legislation on the subject, wholeheartedly, without reservation and are willing to fight to the bitter end to keep such legislation from being adopted—REGARDLESS of what sort of pressure may be exerted on you by party leaders or high officials!

So far as The Daily knows, President Roosevelt has exerted little or no pressure to pass the bill which was held up in the recent session of congress. However, it is generally understood that the President looks with favor upon the proposal to curb lynchings by federal legislation.

If he ever determined to "turn on the heat" he would have great influence with senators committed to the new deal. It is to guard against any weakening of the defense of states rights by Alabama voters that The Daily asks this open question of Congressman Hill.

For years now certain congressmen and senators have urged the federal government to aim this blow at the South. Heretofore the South has been able to offer a successful defense. Here in Alabama we must do nothing that will make this task any harder.

The Daily has no personal knowledge of how Congressman Hill feels about this matter, nor does The Daily know how Congressman Steagall, ex-Senator Heflin or any other whose name has been mentioned in connection with the race, feels about the lynching bill.

The Daily is convinced, however, that the voters of Alabama have a right to know how the candidates feel on this question and have a right to put the candidate on record.

The federal lynching bill is one of the most despicable pieces of legislation offered in congress in years. Proving conclusively that it is a political gesture, made by northern and eastern lawmakers as a vote-snatching proposition, and intended only as a punitive measure against the South, sponsors refused to amend it to include gang slayings and labor riots among the penalty provoking incidents.

The Daily would be glad to publish the views, without charge, of any of the senatorial candidates on this question.

Aides Meet Edwards In Secret Here

Advertiser
9-6-37
Montgomery, Ala.

Farm Federation Head Maintains Silence On Bolt By 21 Counties

Statement Delayed

Names Of Conferees Are Guarded When Reporter Discovers Meeting Place

Col. J. Litt Edwards, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, which lost a majority of its membership with the secession Friday of 21 county units, met here last night with his faithful lieutenants in an effort to heal the breach which threatened the life of the federation.

Assembled behind closed doors, the conferees met all inquiries with reticence. "I am not in a position to make a statement at this time," was all that President Edwards could be persuaded to say. Other farm leaders, including Clifton Kirkpatrick, secretary-manager of the Federation, were equally taciturn.

The silence was taken to mean that President Edwards and those meeting with him had made little progress in their conference here. It was understood that the issuance of a statement by the standpat group had been considered but had been delayed until such statement as was drafted might be approved in the counties that compose what is left of the Federation.

The Sunday conferences began in the Farm Bureau offices in the Shepherd building but later were adjourned to room 321 at the Jefferson Davis Hotel. Reporters could not gain enry into the room. Col. Edwards came outside to say he had nothing to say but would not divulge the names of his conferees.

Twenty-one counties of southwest Alabama seceded from the Federation Friday and formed the Alabama Agricultural Association, with Frank Earie, of Baldwin County, as president. The new group, through its spokesmen, claimed to comprise 14,228 of the 22,158 members claimed by the parent organization.

Dallas County, of which President Edwards is a resident, did not secede although contiguous counties withdrew and entered the new organization.

Such wa sthe secrecy surrounding the conference here last night that no inkling of the Federation's plans could be obtained. If it was the belief of the remnant group that seceding forces might be drawn back into the fold by certain concessions there was no indication that such was the case

Political-1937

Elections

Arkansas.

COMMITTEE TO DRAFT STATE BALLOTS SOON

Commercial Appeal

Arkansas Body Will Meet Within 10 Days

700 OFFICES TO BE FILLED

Status of Candidates To Be Decided At Session—Election Date Still Unset By Governor Bailey

9-22-37

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

LITTLE ROCK, Sept. 21.—The Democratic State Committee will meet here within the next 10 days to take action regarding the status of candidates for 700 vacant offices which will be filled at the special election to select a successor to the late Senator Joe T. Robinson, Beloit Taylor, secretary of the committee announced today.

Memphis, Tenn.

The committee nominated Gov. Carl E. Bailey for the Senate at a meeting here July 23, but took no action regarding other offices.

Will Select Nominees

Mr. Taylor said where requests are made Democratic nominees will be selected for the district or county offices. This will eliminate the necessity of the majority of candidates running as independents or going through the formality of filing nominating petitions.

Competition has developed for only one office, other than that of senator, which is circuit judge in the Fourteenth Judicial District where J. H. Black is serving under appointment of Governor Bailey.

Three other candidates, besides Judge Black, have filed their corrupt practices pledges and given notice of intention of seeking the office.

Mr. Taylor said he didn't know what would be done in this case about settling on one candidate as the Democratic nominee.

Unopposed Thus Far

Chancellor A. P. Steele of Ashdown and Circuit Judge Minor Millwee of DeQueen, both of whom are serving under Bailey appointments and so far are unopposed for election, are expected to be declared party nominees.

No further indication was forthcoming today regarding a call for the special election, although John F. Wells, secretary to Governor Bailey, said yesterday the election would be held by Nov. 1, and "probably earlier."

Governor Bailey was at Mena today where he addressed a highway boosters meeting. He is not expected back in his office until Friday. Tomorrow he will take part in dedicatory exercises at Paragould and Thursday will speak at the dedication of a new bridge at Imboden.

Congressman John E. Miller, who is opposing Governor Bailey as the nominee of a "rank and file" Democratic convention here Aug. 9, spoke at Camden tonight. He will speak Friday night at Hampton, in Calhoun County.

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Connecticut

FIRST COLORED ALDERMAN IN HARTFORD, CT.

Guardian
11-20-37

HARTFORD, Conn. — Since the death of Alderman Nathan Promisle of the third ward, this ward has been without representation in the city council. Last Friday night, Nov. 12, at a meeting of the democratic leaders of the ward, B. W. Barlow was elected by the committee to succeed Mr. Promisle. However, as Mr. Barlow was already employed at the State Building and could not hold a political office under the civil service rules he resigned and Mr. Ellis was chosen. This is the first time a colored man has been elected Alderman in the city of Hartford. Mr. Barlow is an active member of Bethel A.M.E. Church of which Dr. W. K. Hopes is pastor.

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D.C.

Four Senators, N. Y. Democratic Club Endorse Tribune's Campaign For Negro Judge in Police Court

Tribune 3-13-37 Washington D.C.

Four United States Senators and the New York State Democratic Club of Washington endorsed The Tribune campaign for a colored judge in the Police Court, this week.

Senator Henry Ashurst (Democrat) of Arizona and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in a statement to the Tribune Tribune Tuesday stated that he heartedly favored a Negro for the Police Court. "Negroes constitute one-third of the population in the District and it's not a question of color. If he has good character a Negro should be appointed and I am in favor of it and will support it," said the Senator.

Capper Promises Support

Senator Arthur Capper, (Republican), of Kansas and Senator Rush D. Holt, (Democrat) of West Virginia, told The Tribune this week that they favored a Negro judge for the court.

Senator Holt said:

"I am in favor of Negroes being given every opportunity they can be given to demonstrate their ability."

Senator Capper said he had been following The Tribune campaign for some time and is deeply interested. He declared that he would do what he could to bring about the appointment of a colored judge, adding that his constituents in his State had urged him to support the Tribune campaign.

Senator Frederick Van Nuys (Democrat), of Indiana, a member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, in a letter to the Tribune Tuesday said that he welcomed the recommendation by the President of a Negro attorney as Police Court judge.

The New York State Democratic Club, through its local secretary, Leon W. Condol, sent the following letter:

"On behalf of the club I wish for you and the Washington Tribune success in your laudable effort to secure the appointment of a Negro as police court judge. As a medium for the creation and expression of public opinion, we congratulate you upon the wisdom and fine spirit of public service that impelled you to espouse such a worthy cause."

Civic Bodies Act

Resolutions from the Federation of Civic Associations endorsing the campaign were sent President Roosevelt and Attorney General Cummings this week. The resolution read: "We believe that the time was never more propitious than now, under the humane and courageous leadership of President Frandklin D. Roosevelt, to seek the benefits to which the colored citizens of the District of Columbia are justly entitled."

The Ivy City Citizens Association also urged the President and Attorney General to name a colore man for the position. The association in its resolution said: "Officials of the District frequently refer to the high crime wave among Negroes in Washington, and the large proportion of cases among them that come before them daily. If such is true, it seems that there is much a Negro Police Court judge could do to reform some of these criminals.

The Rock Creek Citizens' Association in letters to the President and Attorney General pointed out: "In line with your typical American-like policy, we feel that a colored lawyer should be given consideration for appointment as Police Court judge. The efforts of such an appointment will be so wholesome and far-reaching that it would reverberate throughout the length and breath of the nation."

Dr. Jernagin Busy

Dr. William H. Jernagin, former delegate to the Republican National Convention, and president of the National Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Congress, heartedly endorsed The Tribune campaign and has sent letters of endorsement to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Cummings.

"There are any number of reasons why a Negro judge should be appointed in the Police Court of the District and I am simply writing you to tell you how glad I am that The Tribune is urging the appointment of a capable man of the race to the bench," said Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Girls and nationally known Negro woman leader.

Individauls in every walk of life in the District and in the states have written The Tribune endorsing its campaign.

Tribune 3-13-37 Washington D.C.

As pointed out, from 70 to 80 per cent of the cases in the Police Court are colored and about 50 per cent of the lawyers who practice in that court are Negroes. A poll of all of them by the Tribune discloses that they favor a Negro judge. Judge Isaac R. Hitt and Judge McMahon will be replaced this month. The Tribune is urging that one of those to be appointed should be colored.

An Appeal

The following is the letter sent by the Pleasant Plains Citizens Association to the President and the Attorney General urging the appointment of a Police Court colored judge:

February 24, 1937

The Honorable Homer S.
Cummings,
Attorney General of the
United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The Pleasant Plains Citizens Association hereby respectfully requests that you recommend the appointment of a colored man as Associate Justice of the Police Court of the District of Columbia.

With so large a proportion of the citizenry of the District of Columbia of Negro extraction, and considering that the majority of cases appearing for disposition before the Police Court involve colored persons, it is our very firm opinion that at least one of the four judges of the Police Court should be a colored member and we earnestly urge your early consideration and recommendation in this connection.

I have the honor to remain
Very truly yours,
VELMA G. WILLIAMS,
President
JEROME B. OSBORNE,
Secretary

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2 More Congressmen Favor Police Judgeship

SENATOR CAPPER TO AID TRIBUNE DRIVE FOR NEGRO POLICE COURT JUDGE

Tribune 3-13-37 Washington D.C.

To the Editor:

I am thoroughly in sympathy with your drive for a Negro judge of the Police Court of the District of Columbia and will do whatever I can along that line.

ARTHUR CAPPER,
U.S. Senator, Kansas.

SENATOR VAN NUYS WELCOMES RECOMMENDATION OF NEGRO AS JUDGE OF POLICE COURT

To the Editor:

I wish to advise you that I have constantly urged the appointment of Negroes to positions of importance, and I shall welcome the recommendation by the President of a Negro attorney as Police Court judge.

FREDERICK VAN NUYS,
U.S. Senator, Indiana.

Five State Organizations Endorse Tribune Campaign for Judge

New Negro Alliance and Dr. William J. Tompkins Recorder of Deeds, Approve Negro for Bench in Police Court; Effort Called Laudable

Tribune 3-20-37 Washington D.C.

Five state organizations added their endorsements to The Tribune campaign for a colored judge for the District Police Court this week with communications coming from Maryland, Connecticut, Colorado, Indiana and Kansas.

In addition several local groups sent letters to the President and Attorney General Homer Cummings, asking that a Negro be appointed to one of the two vacancies to be filled this month.

"Your effort in this regard is a laudable one, and I am confident it will receive proper consideration from those in authority," said Dr. William J. Thompkins, recorder of deeds. "With the large percentage of petty offenders of the race there should be no doubt about Negro representation in the Police Court Judiciary. There is no doubt that Washington offers a fine coterie of barristers, highly competent, who would honor the Bench," added Dr. Thompkins.

In a letter to The Tribune, Senator George McGill, of Kansas, said: "I would have no objection to whomever the President, in his judgement, might name to fill the vacancies on the police court bench of the District of Columbia."

The New Negro Alliance added its approval to the campaign by sending letters to the President and Attorney General, urging that such an appointment be made.

Connecticut Approves

The Democratic State Central Committee of Connecticut, headed by Walter M. Murray, sent urgent requests to President Roosevelt to name a colored man to the Police court bench here and said:

"Since 27 per cent of the District of Columbia population is colored and those who come before the court for trial are from 70 to 80 per cent Negroes, we feel that it is not asking too much that one of the judges should be a Negro."

The Columbia Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Colorada, and Jurisdiction, through its officer, O. L. Lawson, also asked that a Negro be named in a letter to the President.

From Baltimore, Warner T. McGuinn, prominent attorney and Democratic political leader, wrote to Senators Alva B. Adams, George L. Radcliffe and Millard E. Tydings urging them to lend their services to The Tribune campaign.

Dr. Raymond King, Eighth District Chairman of the Indiana Negro Democratic Central Association, Evansville, Ind., sent the following to President Roosevelt: "Since you have manifested an interest in the Negro race by other appointments, I am asking if you will not further this interest by appointing a Negro to the bench of the Police Court for the District of Columbia."

Kansas Heard From

R. J. Reynolds, head of one of the largest law firms in Topeka, Kansas, and leading Democrat, pointed out to the President the need of a colored judge in the District police court and urged that a Negro be named. Mr. Reynolds said:

"I am interested in seeing The Washington Tribune succeed in the campaign it is now waging for the appointment of a Negro as one of the four judges to the police court for the District of Columbia. As one of your loyal supporters, I want to endorse most enthusiastically The Tribune campaign."

Groups Endorse Campaign For Police Court Judge

By GARLAND MACKEY

The Tribune campaign to have a colored judge placed on the bench in the police court of the District met instant approval of civic, church and fraternal organizations this week.

Hundreds of individuals and organizations endorsed the movement and many cited instances in which a Negro judge can not only perform the duties of the court, but can render invaluable social service since he is more familiar with the needs of the majority of persons who come before him and has a more sympathetic understanding of their problems. Figures show that some 70 to 80 percent of the cases tried in the police court are colored, and on the basis of population, a Negro should be among the four judges in that court.

No Candidate

The Tribune is not fostering the candidacy of any individual, but among the 150 colored lawyers in the District, one should be appointed. Colored judges are serving with distinction in other cities and in our own municipal court here Judge Armond W. Scott has met the approval of the entire bar association, colored and white. In fact most of the cases that come before him are white litigants.

2-20-37

Washington

The Baptist Ministers' Conference president, the Rev. Mr. Kato Roy, heartedly endorsed the Tribune campaign and stated that his organization would no doubt pass favorably on it at its meeting on Monday.

Approved by Federation

Woolsey W. Hall, president of the Federation of Civic Associations, also approved of a Negro judge. Others endorsing the Tribune campaign were William L. Houston, president of the Washington Bar Association; the two American Posts, James Reese Europe and James Walker; Dr. Robert W. Brooks, pastor of Lincoln Temple Congregational Church, the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and its Interracial Committee and the Rev. William Jernagin, pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and president of the National Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Congress.

Dr. Jernagin Writes

In a letter to the Tribune Dr. Jernagin said:

2-20-37

"I was delighted to see in your issue of February 13 that the Tribune had launched a drive for a police court judge of our racial group. I have thought for many years that we should have a judge in the police court. Anyone having visited that court as often as I, would be brought to the same conclusion.

Washington

"Negro judges have made a very fine record in the municipal court here. I don't think anyone will question the record made by Judges Terrell and Cobbs, and our present Judge Scott.

"I want you to know that I heartily endorse the drive as timely and am ready to do everything within my power and influence to get in a colored man. I don't mean to say by this that we do not have some fine and impartial white judges serving in this capacity now, but I am convinced, and have been for some time, of the need of placing one of our group on the bench. Now that there is a vacancy I believe we should take advantage of the opportunity afforded."

Appeals to President

The National Youth Conference meeting in Richmond, Va., last week-end passed a resolution approving of the campaign and sent a copy of the resolution to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Cummings.

The terms of two white judges of the court will expire on March 18. There are four judges in the court and the Tribune is seeking to have one of the two judges to be appointed be a Negro.

Delegation to Present Petition to Cummings for Negro Police Judge

A committee of Washington citizens will call on Attorney General Cummings Friday morning to present a petition approving The Tribune campaign for a colored judge in the police court of the District.

The Attorney General in a letter to The Tribune, said he would receive the committee at 11 a.m. Friday.

3-20-37

Washington D. C.

It will be composed of the following:

J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of Elks; Woolsey W. Hall, president of the Federation of Civic Associations; A. S. Pinkett, secretary of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Nathan A. Dobbins, president of the Harlan-Terrell Bar Association; George B. Murphy, of the Afro-American staff; Charles Edward Russell, president of the District Interracial Committee.

Dr. Robert W. Brooks, Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance; W. L. Houston, president of the Washington Bar Association; Major Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A.; Belford V. Lawson, American Civil Liberties Union and New Negro Alliance; John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress; Frederick S. Weaver, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and member of The Tribune reportorial staff.

Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls; Julia West Hamilton, president of Y.W.C.A.; George A. Parker, dean of the Terrell Law School, Dr. Edgar A. Love, Ministers Alliance; Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, Howard University, and Garland Mackey, of The Tribune.

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Florida

Negroes Watch Florida Elections

Black Dispatch

By RICHARDSON

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—May 13.—(ANP)—Negroes in Florida's two most heavily populated cities, Miami and Jacksonville, anxiously watched election returns in the lily-white city elections this week as anti-Negro factions in both cities battled for continuances of their regimes.

5-15-37

Barred from any participation in the elections, the Negro populations in both cities were never-the-less vitally concerned in the results. In Jacksonville, Mayor John Alsop, head of the Mayor-Commission clique that for fourteen years has denied Negroes the use of public parks, city-owned radio station, and public armory, fought Tuesday to hold his office against another Democratic candidate George Blume, a lawyer who has defended several Negroes in local courts battled for a seat on the city commission.

Oklahoma City Okla.

Miami saw another death-grip in the white election for city commission seats, with a continuance of police brutality, flagrant segregation, and oppressive law tactics of the past six years in sight if the old line machine politicians won over the Progressives. Fighting to uphold the old machine on the city commission at the resort city are former mayor Sewell, incumbent when sensational cases of police brutalities against Negroes were whitewashed there, and Commissioners Orr and Williams, moving figures in the town's recently repealed "fingerprint law," a measure which gave Negro hotel and domestic employes the status of "public enemies."

Odds were even in Jacksonville as to the outcome of the elections, and in Miami the betting slightly favored the "machine" candidates.

General

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Newport News, Va. Press
October 20, 1937

REVOLT IN THE SOUTH

Disquieting news regarding the support of the Administration comes from the far South. The successor to the late Senator Robinson was elected on an independent ticket after the Democratic State Committee of Arkansas had nominated Governor Carl E. Bailey, who conducted his campaign on a strictly Administration allegiance.

While the victory of John E. Miller and his succession to the seat held by one of President Roosevelt's most able lieutenants, Robinson, was in part a protest against the committee's right to name a candidate for the office, it is looked upon likewise as a mandate that the new senator shall support modifications in proposed legislation sponsored by the Administration, and viewed as inimical to the welfare of the stronghold of the Democratic party. The Wage-Hour bill, the anti-lynch law, which has been assigned a preferential place on the congressional calendar, the Administration's stand on the agricultural issue, in which so many cotton growers of the South are vitally concerned, all contributed their part to the election of a candidate who is not completely allied with the policies of the New Deal.

Coincident with the announcement of Governor Bailey's defeat comes word that Senator Tom Heflin has been able to swing for himself in the last few weeks 75 per cent of the voters connected with the Graves administration of Alabama, with chances of increasing his support to approximately 90 per cent by election day on January 4.

While the wife of Governor Graves holds a temporary appointment to the Senate, the governor himself is one of the President's closest supporters. On the other hand, ex-Senator Tom Heflin, a candidate, has felt out the pulse of his state during the interim of his absence from the upper house. His opposition to the Supreme Court measure and to the Wage-Hour bill comes straight from the heart of Alabama. Likewise, he is making an issue out of the Red menace which is threatening to interfere with the influence of the real American home, and his well-taken position is meeting with hearty response in the state which once "let him down" after he had served in the halls of Congress for 25 years.

These strange reversals of opinion, as reflected in political support, are definite indications of a revulsion of sentiment taking place all over the South. The attempted coercion of certain Southern industries through the National Labor Relations Board has not tended to strengthen the position of the Administration in the minds of the electorate. Communistic propaganda coming from organizations is coldly received in the South, but when it is borne in upon the wings of the authoritative representatives of the Administration with the stamp of the President's approval, loyal Democrats believe it is time to let the party know that the South prefers a more conservative program which will preserve those inalienable rights of personal liberty that are so deeply rooted in the principles of the Southern people.

Virginia's senators were leaders in opposing much of the legislation of the President regarded by them as unsound and unwise. Now comes a disaffection from Arkansas and threatening disapproval from Alabama. It is evident that the Administration's elevation of Black to the high office did not tend to inspire confidence of his state in the complete wisdom of official acts. The South is hanging up its warning.

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Georgia
6

AUGUSTA ORGANIZES VOTERS AND CIVIC LEAGUE

AUGUSTA, Ga. (ANP)—Anxious to secure more civic benefits, a permanent Negro Voters' and Civic league was organized here last week. Officials [illegible] Philip Waring, president; Rev. I. J. [illegible]cey, secretary, and Rev. R. Calhoun, treasurer.

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Illinois

CHICAGO DEMOCRAT WINS POLITICAL APPOINTMENT

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Announcement was made this week by County Treasurer Horace G. Lindheimer of the appointment of Kenneth E. Campbell as assistant to the chief clerk of the treasurer's office.

Chicagoan Is Made Judge In Alton, Ill.

Defender 12-18-37

"Fighting Against Odds," or "The Determination to Win" would be the appropriate title of Judge Bernard McGwin's autobiography should he ever decide to write one.

Judge McGwin, a former Chicagoan, was elected Justice of the Peace in Alton, Ill., the home of the great Elijah Lovejoy, last April, carrying every ward and polling 200 votes less than the elected mayor. He has three more years to serve. He secured his place on the ticket by getting 900 signatures in 36 hours and filing it one minute before the deadline.

Jealousy Arises

Seven years ago Judge McGwin left Chicago where he conducted a real estate office at 3252 Indiana avenue, and went to Alton to enter business at the Mineral Springs hotel. He opened a valet service which prospered until whites became jealous of his success and undermined him. No attorney would take his case against the hotel that broke its lease. He then opened the Club Plantation, a fashionable roadhouse which attracted the best trade in the section, but 37 white tavern owners organized against him and wrecked his business.

Then he organized the Negro Welfare Council and made it self-supporting by the members making wearing apparel to sell. He edited two papers, the Alton Globe and Madison County Courier which increased his influence in the community. Then he turned to politics, having gained previous experience in this field by once serving as secretary to the late James G. Cotter when he was U. S. Assistant Attorney General in Illinois, and when he (McGwin) served as chief clerk for the government on the Municipal pier.

Warned By Whites

"This is not the locality for the white collar Negro," he was told by a white attorney who warned him about trying to improve the conditions of the Race in Alton. Judge McGwin has shattered this theory by making the 6,000 members of his Race who reside there hope for better treatment in public places. He at least has inspired them to ignore the "carpet-bagger" type of Race leaders who heretofore have been the tools of white interests, and exploited the masses for personal gain.

The justice of the peace has the same power in Alton as the municipal judge has in Chicago—if not more.

Judge McGwin's father, James B. McGwin, has been a realty broker for 27 years, coming to Chicago 17 years ago from Washington where the judge was born. The father resides at 9204 Indiana avenue. He is a cousin of the late Atty. Warner T. McGwin, who served as chairman of the committee of highways, traffic and bridges in Baltimore, and Robert P. McGwin, member of the Maryland legislature and commissioner of education, Baltimore. Other relatives are Mrs. Vance J. Anderson, Miss Jessie Anderson, and an aunt, Miss Lucille Owens who resides in Chicago. He served as lieutenant with the Eighth Regiment overseas.

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Iowa

NEITHER SIDE SEEMS TO KLICK

Recently, one of the best jobs held by Negroes at the state house has been taken away from the group. This place had been held by a Negro for many years. Our Democratic friends do seem to be able to explain it.

We have had some changes in the court house during the past few months and with those changes have come opportunities to give back to the Negro group some of the jobs they held in past years; on the other hand there are offices in the court house where Negroes get absolutely no consideration.

In spite of the great campaign waged by Negroes in the city election last year they have made absolutely no more progress in securing a fairer distribution of patronage than existed prior to these elections. And while one office made a left-handed gesture in the direction of improvement, it has not been at all commensurate with the support given that office during the campaign.

The city campaign is less than six months away; the county and state about the same. The Bystander knows that Negroes in both major political parties are not satisfied with the situation as it is today; they are not satisfied with the situation at the city hall. Something must be done and that something must begin with individual candidates.

We have entirely too many Republicans in office who are absolutely worthless and a very definite effort should be made to get rid of them; we have too many Democrats who think they satisfy a Negro's political aspirations with a WPA job; we have too many people in the city hall who use the civil service as a smoke screen or fell that the Negro should be satisfied with the crumbs from the table however small.

The Bystander wants this situation changed. It must be changed and the only way for this to be done is to point out these political tricksters to the group and go out to beat them. There is nothing to lose but much to gain. And of course we are not going to get unanimous support for this program, but we do feel that it is the right one and will solicit the support of the masses to accomplish it.

While this editorial deals in general terms, we propose to name the offices in time where our representation is inadequate and suggest methods of changing the situation. And in doing this The Bystander will not write editorials for candidates but against those who fail to do their duty toward the group.

Kansas.

Political - 1937
Elections.

Negro Voters Defeat Junction City Mayor

JUNCTION CITY, Kas.—Mayor Joseph Rosenfield's failure to conduct a proper investigation of this city's mob murder case of March 3 had reverberations in the April 6 election when he was defeated by the Negro voters.

Negroes who previously had supported Mr. Rosenfield turned against him after the "whitewashing" in the case in which two white men beat and clubbed a Negro to death. The investigation failed to satisfy Negro voters.

Rosenfield, defeated by Eli Trosper, is demanding a recount.

Call 4-16-37
Kansas City
Call

Political - 1937
Elections.

Kentucky

Kentucky Solon To Run For Reelection

Journal and Guide
6-26-37
Norfolk, Va.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (ANP) — Atty. Charles W. Anderson, Jr., a representative in the State General Assembly from the 58th district, and the first Negro in the state to be so honored, last Tuesday filed his declaration papers with the County Clerk and announced his candidacy for reelection to the state legislative body.

During his first term Representative Anderson supported actively the Anderson-Mayer State Aid Bill, which provides financial aid to Negro students desiring higher education.

Woman Candidate For Constable

[illegible]

LOUISVILLE, Ky., July 15— Mrs. Florence Dishman, active in Democratic circles, has filed as a candidate for the office of Constable in the Second District. She is the first of her sex to seek such an office.

ANDERSON VICTOR IN LOUISVILLE, KY., FOR LEGISLATURE

Brilliant Young Leader Defeats Colored Democrat

Globe
11-12-37

Louisville, Ky., (Special)—Notwithstanding the heavy expenditure of money by the Democrats in an effort to encompass his defeat, Charles W. Anderson, brilliant young lawyer, an alumnus of Kentucky State College and also of Howard university, emerged victor in his race for membership in the Kentucky legislature last week. Mr. Anderson defeated his colored Democratic opponent, Augustus R. Ford by a vote of 2,291 to 1,238.

Anderson is the first colored man ever elected to membership in the Kentucky legislature and achieved that honor in 1935 when he defeated C. Ubanks Tucker colored minister and lawyer who was nominated by the Democrats. The splendid record that the young lawyer made as a member of the House of Representatives made him such a popular choice that he not only was reelected this year but was the only Republican in the city who survived the Democratic landslide. Anderson, it is believed, will shortly emerge as a national leader among the younger group of colored adherents of the G. O. P. because of his proven strength with the masses of his race, and his trustworthiness as a Republican.

Re-elected

CHARLES ANDERSON

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—While the Democrats won all other offices in last week's elections, Charles W. Anderson, Republican, was re-elected for the legislature by a majority of 1,[illegible]25 votes.

Within thirty-five days after he was first seated in the legislature on January 1, 1936, Mr. Anderson introduced a bill, subsequently passed, to provide $175,000, to deserving colored students for higher education.

He is a graduate of Wilberforce and the Howard University Law School and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

11-13-37

Political-1937
Elections.

Massachusetts.

COOK LOSES IN COUNCIL RACE

Guardian

MILDRED HARRIS GETS POST—FIRST WOMAN CITY COUNCILOR

4-3-37

Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Mildred Gleason Harris, sister of the late Councillor Richard D. Gleason, was elected to the Boston City Council in the special election held Tuesday in Ward 9.

Ernest D. Cooke, only Colored candidate in the field polled second highest number of votes. Robert Russell and other Colored had withdrawn. The vote was as follows:

Mrs. Mildred M. Harris	1384
Ernest D. Cooke	1186
John J. Craven	1049
Daniel F. Sullivan	1002
Francis W. Nyham	379
Charles L. Curran	328
William J. Smith	195
Michael J. Keenan	65
Robert B. Russell, Jr.	49
Harold E. Crosby	45
James E. McDonald	24

"BOB" RUSSELL TO RUN IN NOV.

Guardian
4-3-37

THE FOLLOWING LETTER STATES THE POSITION OF MR. RUSSELL WHO WITHDREW HIS CANDIDACY IN THE RECENT CITY COUNCIL FIGHT

Boston, Mass.

To the Editor of The Guardian:

May I once more ask your leninency and goodwill in permitting me to say the following to your reading public. In your issue of March 20, you were kind enough to publicize my withdrawal from the City Council fight in Ward 9 in favor of Mr. Ernest D. Cooke. I did this against the better judgment of many of my good friends and well wishers, who had not only given of their time but of their money also. However, I took this step because I conscientiously felt that it was for the best interest of the community.

On last Tuesday, Election I watched very carefully the voting at the various polling places and to my utter amazement I found that the only Colored candidate in the field not only had failed to place workers there, but had made no effort to get the voters out. I cannot but feel that the opportunity that the people afforded this candidate was deliberately sacrificed. Now I am thoroughly convinced that in this callousness and utter disregard for a vested trust, Mr. Cooke has either displayed his inability to be elected under any circumstances, or a primary interest in merely frustrating any concerted effort of race voters in Ward 9 for elective representation. This latter conclusion is particularly substantiated by the fact that this same person has no specific objective but runs for everything as indicated in his campaigns for the Governor's Council, then for the House of Representatives and finally for the City Council.

Personally, I know and feel that any citizen has a perfect right to run for any public office that may see fit, but I do not feel nor believe that any Colored man or woman has to right to deliberately to take advantage of the public to satisfy what seems to be a selfish ambition.

Therefore, I am taking the occasion to inform the public and my friends of my full intentions to begin at once developing an organization for my election to the City Council this coming November. This organization shall be known as the "Russell for City Council Club". I earnestly solicit the interest and support of every voted in Ward 9.

ROBERT B. RUSSELL. JR.

Simmons Seeks Council Seat In Boston

"Daily World"
8-23-37
Atlanta, Ga.

BOSTON. — (ANP) — This city may soon have a Negro in its City Council.

If the race now being made by Dr. R. A. Simmons, popular dentist identified with local politics for years, is successful, a Negro will sit with the councilmanic body for the first time in more than thirty years.

Simmons threw his hat in the ring a few days ago with the backing of some of the strongest Negro organizations in the city. Churches, fraternal bodies and civic organizations had already pledged support to the candidate before his official notice of candidacy.

Bostonians credit Dr. Simmons with responsibility for several sweeping improvements in the predominantly Negro sections during the past few years. He took an active part in the agitation for Madison Park, recently obtained, and in addition staged several hard fights for garbage removal, sanitation, education, improvements and other projects.

Rumors that an attempt would be made to fuse the candidacy of all the Negroes in the race into a fight for one candidate were still floating this week, with some sources reporting a splendid possibility that this step would be taken. Such a step, it is thought, will almost guarantee the presence of Simmons in the council during the coming term.

SIMMONS SEEKS COUNCIL SEAT IN BOSTON

Tribune
9-4-37
Washington D.C.

BOSTON, (ANP) — This city may soon have a Negro in its City Council. If the race now being made by Dr. R. A. Simmons, popular dentist, identified with local politics for many years, is successful, a Negro will sit in the council for the first time in more than 30 years.

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Negro Files As Candidate In Mayoralty

Gazette
9-24-37
Cleveland, Ohio.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—(C)— Attorney William S. West secured 500 signatures Wednesday afternoon and filed his nomination papers for Mayor. Attorney West says his main objective is to test the colored voting strength of Cambridge.

Political-1937
Elections.

Massachusetts.

STOP PUSSYFOOTING!

THE sudden death of Richard D. Gleason brings the City Council elections forcibly before the voters of Ward 9. Within two months a special election will be held to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. It is very essential that the voters should get together and decide who will carry their banner in that election.

Chronicle

Practically every colored political organization in the ward has agreed that a worthy colored candidate should be endorsed and supported for the City Council seat in November. The important thing is to get these various bodies to do something more than just talk about what they wish to do. There are also certain individuals with ideas of their own and hoping to ride in on the wave of their own personal popularity, real or imaginary.

1-23-37

Any but an exceedingly foolish person must realize that the only chance of getting a colored man or woman into the Council will depend upon there being only one candidate and for that one to be supported by all the colored voters in Ward 9. It is now up to the various organizations and individuals to to stop pussyfooting and come out into the open. Let all who would be candidates, or endorse a candidate, state their case —then the voters in a well ordered mass meeting can decide which one of the many they desire to represent them. A campaign costs money, unfortunately, and the average colored candidate either cannot or will not spend any. It is certain that there will be several white aspirants, and the more there are the better it will be for a colored candidate if he stands as the sole representative of his people. The colored voters would also find it to their advantage to contribute to the campaign of a good candidate.

Who will that candidate be? A well-organized campaign committee should be formed at once and a drive started that will not lose its intensity or diminish in fervor until the polls are closed. We, the people, demand to know who our candidate is going to be. There should be no secrecy about it.

We have enough colored votes in Ward 9 to elect our candidate from among the aspirants for the City Council. Stop pussyfooting, name the candidate and let us get right on the job of electing him. Remember, the man we put in now will have a walkover in November.

PROMISES MUST BE KEPT

NOW is the time for all good politicians and true to start keeping their election promises. Now is the time for all good voters to see to it that all politicians—whether good or bad, just so long as they were elected—keep their election promises.

Chronicle

We begin the roll call with the President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. We have searched his speech to Congress for some ray of hope that he has thought of his colored constituents even for a fleeting second, we hunt in vain for some reference to the nation's greatest scourge—the lynch evil—but none can be found. The nearest approach is found in the following passage:

> "Experience with actualities makes it clear that federal laws supplementing state laws are needed to help solve the problems which result from modern invention applied in an industrialized nation which conducts its business with scant regard to state lines."

1-9-37

We do not think the President was thinking of lynching when he wrote the above words, but they open an avenue where we (and those who represent us) can press for federal anti-lynching legislation.

After the glamor of Governor Charles F. Hurley's inauguration has faded away, we shall expect him to make some definite gestures in our direction. We look upon him as a friend on Beacon Hill and we expect him to do honestly and fairly whatsoever lies in his power to better the economic, social and political conditions of the colored citizens of Massachusetts.

Boston, Mass—

Further down the line we get to Representatives Owens and Craven who represent Ward 9, Roxbury. We ask of them a betterment of conditions in Ward 9 which is without a shadow of doubt the most neglected ward in the City of Boston. We expect Messrs. Owens and Craven to fulfil their campaign pledges by doing something to give Ward 9 residents conditions under which they can better enjoy the much talked of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

A word to the voters: No election promises will be kept if we, the people, sit with our hands folded and wait for something to happen. We must jog the elbows and stir the memories of the people whom we helped put into office. We must harass and annoy them until even if it is only "by reason of our importunity" they will arise and get into action.

Let all politicians know that handing out a few plums to one or two hand-picked henchmen will not satisfy the majority of us. Let them also remember that another Election Day will be around.

IT IS UP TO THE CANDIDATES

THE failure of the political organizations of Ward 9, Roxbury, to agree on a single colored candidate to represent the voters in the coming City Council election proves them to be blind to the people's interests, deaf to the timely warnings of persons with vision and just plain asinine.j

We now question the strength of those organizations and their ability to corner any appreciable quantity of votes, no matter who their candidate might be. We also doubt if the combined membership of all these organizations exceeds 500 people. In the meantime some 3,500 voters, and eligible voters, stand on the sidewalks and wait. Some will be so disgusted with these petty colored politicians that they will choose the best white candidate and vote for him—while others will not even bother about registering—realizing the futility of it all. Between the two, the colored people will lose the best chance they have ever had for representation.

The solution of the whole matter lies in the hands of the would-be candidates themselves. No matter who calls mass meeting, there will never be a fair percentage of actual voters present to obtain any indication as to the wishes of the majority of the voters.

Several colored gentlemen have signified their intention or desire to be candidates, each of whom is capable, has standing in the community and could represent Ward 9 honestly and creditably. If they possess the intelligence which they boast of, they must realize the utter hopelessness of more than one of them entering the campaign. It would mean an unnecessary waste of time and money, which none of them, we imagine, are willing to sacrifice.

The CHRONICLE therefore strongly appeals to these gentlemen to meet (without benefit of any outside organizations or individuals) and endeavor to decide which of them would be the most logical candidate with the best chance of winning. We feel sure that if their aim is to serve the people of Ward 9 and not their own personal ends, they will be able to come to a decision. And so we leave it up to the gentlemen concerned. Let them do this **before** filing day—not after. The CHRONICLE will gladly support any **one** colored candidate who enters the race with the support of the others, but will decline to line up with two or more foolish individuals who intend to play a "dog eat dog" game while some white candidate sweeps into the City Council and leaves them yapping outside. Gentlemen, it is your move.

ALDERMANIC RACE LEADS TO MANY FACTION FIGHTS

Four Men Running For Same Office May Mean Defeat of All.

BOSTON, Feb. 25.—(By E. W. Clark for ANP)—While a white candidate, Mildred Harris, boasts openly that she is undisturbed about a colored man getting into council because they will be fighting among themselves and she will be gathering the votes, four good men for the job are doing everything in their power to push the other three out of the running.

It will be impossible or nearly so for either to get in if all four run. The four men are: Ernest D. Cooke, Robert Russell, Dr. R. A. Simmons and Roy F. Texeira. Mr. Cooke and Mr. Texiera have been in the running before and made a good showing, but did not win. There is much division of opinion as all four are capable men. Dr. Simmons and Mr. Russell have contacts that would be of service to our group. Mr. Russell is better known than Dr. Simmons, yet Dr. Simmons has for a number of years, been exceedingly active in civic affairs in a quiet way, but a very successful outlook for ward nine in the matter of cleanliness and better housing has been the result.

Through Dr. Simmons and the New England Negro Congress, we have in the making the improvement of a park here that will cost approximately $38,000. However, the fight is on and maybe Miss Harris is right. Miss Harris is the sister to the Gleasons, who have had a monopoly on the politics of ward nine. The Gleasons have remained in power for some time because of the petty favors that were welcomed by a great many ward nine colored folk during the depression.

COOKE SEEKS NEGRO VOTE

Chronicle

Craven in Chat at Melbourne Hotel

3-27-37

Boston, Mass.

With but two days left for the wind up of the Special Election Campaign for a vacancy in the City Council, to be held next Tuesday, the Ward Nine candidates are drawing their battle lines closer. With ten candidates in the field, two of whom have announced their withdrawal, Ernest D. Cooke finds himself the only colored in the race. This being the case he is making a strong appeal for the united colored vote and has already made gains in that direction. Robert (Bob) Russell, Jr., who qualified but does not wish to run, retired in favor of Cooke. His name will appear on the ballot but any vote cast for him will be spoilt.

Editor to Stump

Backing up his efforts to have only one colored candidate in the race, Alfred Haughton, Editor of the CHRONICLE will take the stump for Cooke tonight and Monday, and hold meetings at various points in Roxbury. Among the speakers in his party will be two Boston University students, Vincent Kyle and Paris Sterrett.

At the instigation of Simeon Roberts and Dick Crawford, a fireside chat was given to a group of voters of Ward Nine at Hotel Melbourne On Tremont Street last Wednesday night by Representative John J. Craven, candidate for the City Council.

Upwards of fifty persons sat down to refreshments after which Chairman Crawford opened the speechmaking with a strong appeal to the voters to "vote for Johnny Craven." Mr. Roberts also told the gathering very plainly that there was no use backing any but a winner and "Johnny Craven" was bound to be a winner.

Craven Speaks

Representative John J. Craven in a few words voiced his interest in the Ward and his friendship for Roberts and Crawford. "These are my friends," he said, "and if I get into City Hall anything that you may want of me, tell it to them and I shall do it."

The meeting passed a unanimous vote for Craven.

ROB'T. RUSSELL WITHDRAWS

Boston, Mass.

Guardian

3-20-37

To the Editor:

May I take this occasion to impose upon your generosity for a conspicous place in your issue for March 21 for what I have to say here. I say impose and still, because I know of your genuine interest in the welfare of the Community, I am sure that you will not judge it an imposition.

A few weeks ago a number of friends of mine approached me with the appeal that I run for the office of Councillor for Ward 9. After thinking the matter over, I stated that I would enter such a race if any considerable number of citizens requested the same. Shortly thereafter a public meeting was called with the hope that a single candidate could be selected. I and those who represented my interests welcomed such a public manifestation and were willing to abide by the same. Unfortunately this meeting did not prove to be a settlement but rather complete confusion. But on the other hand a clear majority remained in that meeting after a handful of the disgruntled individuals left. And in the balloting the names of three candidates including myself were voted upon and I was returned the victor. As far as my knowledge goes, there has not been another public meeting called for such a purpose, nor has any candidate assembled anywhere near as many citizens in his behalf as voted at this meeting.

Further, though a number of persons started in the fight, but two perservered until their names were eligible for the ballot and they are Mr. Cooke and myself.

Then came the dilemma of two Colored candidates running for the same office. From the very outset I have been mindful of this and still my whole reaction was that, inasmuch as two years ago certain citizens of Ward 9 worked wholeheartedly to clear the field for Mr. Cooke, and despite the fact they succeeded in doing so, and for some unknown reason the voters stayed at home on election day and permitted him to go down in defeat, I felt that he had had a sporting chance and his further insistence was purely destructive.

However, in the weeks that I have worked diligently to place my name on the ballot, one consideration has become increasingly important to me, and that is the possible example of destructiveness that two supposedly intelligent men might set for our youngsters. I cannot now but feel that the consideration of those youngsters who must carry on tomorrow far transcends the importance of either Mr. Cooke or myself.

Therefore, because Mr. Cooke is evidently determined beyond conviction otherwise that he should run; despite the fact that scores of his former supporters have left him; despite the fact the PEOPLE repudiated his former candidacy and despite the opposition of certain fraternal groups I am convinced that being a party with him in any such imposition on the community, would belie the honest interest that I have in the PEOPLE.

With this in mind and many thanks to my friends, I take this occasion to withdraw my candidacy with the full intention of justifying the faith my friends have in me at a later date.

ROBERT B. RUSSELL, JR.

Boston, March 18, 1937

ROBERT (BOB) RUSSELL

Who announces his withdrawal from Ward 9 in the City Councillor contest—Objects to destructive tactics as bad example to the rising generation

Guardian

Political - 1937
Elections.

Massachusetts.

THE SAME TEXTS

IN Boston today both major parties are approaching the coming municipal elections with the same exhortations. They are preaching from the same texts. In Ward 9, where three colored candidates have taken out nomination papers for the City Council seat (two Democrats and one Republican), leaders of both parties are shouting "Unite behind one colored candidate." We know it is a non-partisan election, but there is no denying that party feeling is injected into it. We also shout "Unite," for we shall have very little interest in a campaign where two or more colored candidates are futilely dividing the colored vote while a white candidate slides in over their heads.

On Tuesday next the time for filing nominations will end and in a day or two we shall know just how many candidates have been able to qualify. Then will be time enough to weigh the merits of the existing candidates and decide which will be the most popular choice with the voters of Ward 9. One thing, however, is certain—only ONE man must run.

In Ward 12 the situation is not at all complicated as far as we are aware. There is only one colored candidate to carry the banner for his people and certainly he should have the unqualified support of every right-thinking Negro voter. The main objectives in each ward must be to have a colored face around the City Council table. There are many persons, both black and white, who affirm that it cannot be done. Once confound these skeptics by electing a man of color and every election thereafter will see colored voters uniting to put one of their own in the Council and in the House of Representatives. The net result of such worthwhile action on the part of colored Bostonians would be to gain for them their fair share of city, state and federal patronage and perquisites.

In the Mayoralty race candidates are pointing to what they have done in the past and promising to do better if given another chance. We, of the colored group, know full well what each man has done and his attitude toward us. We also know that Boston needs a wise and shrewd head to save us from chaos and ruin. After Tuesday we shall choose wisely and well and our readers can depend on our choice. A new ray is about to dawn for Boston's colored population if they do not cover up the picture with dark clouds of stupidity and worthlessness.

Chronicle
Boston Mass.
9-18-37

WE MAKE OUR CHOICE

NO one regrets more than we do that there are still three colored candidates fighting for the right to represent Ward 9 in the coming City Council elections. Our readers must agree that we did all that we could to give the voters of the ward one candidate, and right up to this late hour we still had a small hope, forlorn though it appeared to be, that the field would be narrowed down. Today we feel that it is our duty to suggest to the voters of Ward 9 the best course for them to follow. The **Chronicle** promised our readers that we would make a choice and now, after careful consideration, we make that choice.

Of the three candidates we dropped Ernest D. Cooke from our consideration after he refused to participate in a move that was for the decided benefit of the voters of Ward 9. This left us two and of these two we select Attorney Roy F. Teixeira as the logical and most popular choice of the voters of Ward 9. We choose Teixeira for the following reasons:

1. Because he is an able lawyer who is making a living at his profession and so would be independent of the salary attached to the position.
2. Because he made a favorable showing in 1936 when we supported him for the House of Representatives and has made considerable gains in popularity through his civic and community activities.
3. Because he has given evidence of having enlisted the support of the majority of the leaders and organizations in the ward.
4. Because he is conducting a real campaign and is working hard to gain the confidence and support of the voters.
5. Because his platform is sound and we believe that, if he is elected, he will do his utmost to achieve the aims and objectives set forth in it.
6. Because he is a Negro who is one hundred per cent interested in the welfare and progress of his race.

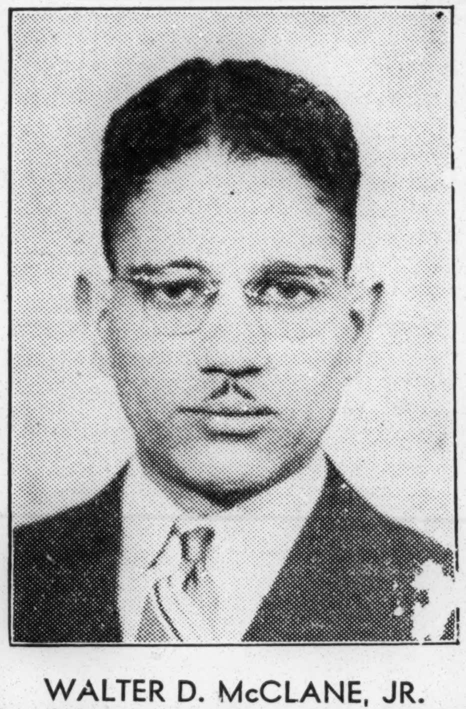
We therefore ask the voters of Ward 9 to go to the polls and vote for ROY F. TEIXEIRA for City Councillor, despite the fact that there are three candidates. The colored voters of Ward 9 can still make it ONE on election day, and they have enough votes to elect him. Let that one be TEIXEIRA. He is well worthy of your and our support. Ward 9 again has a golden opportunity to set Boston and all America an example.

Chronicle
10-23-37
Boston Mass.
10-23-37

CITY COUNCIL

The contests for Boston City Council from Wards 9 and 12 naturally held much interest for the colored citizens because of the colored entrants in both those wards. In Ward 12, Walter D. McClane finished third with a vote of 1672 in a field of 6 contestants. In Ward 9 Ernest D. Cooke, also ran third with a vote of 1440. There were nine candidates in Ward 9. Roy F. Teixeira ran fourth with 686 votes and Robert A. Simmons was seventh with 332 votes. Mrs. Mildred Harris, sister of the late City Councillor Richard B. Gleason who won the special election last March was re-elected by a vote of 3161. Mrs Harris has regularly attracted a considerable number of colored supporters

Guardian
11-6-37
Boston Mass.



WALTER D. McCLANE, JR.
Candidate in Ward 12 for City Council who was third with six running mates—Received 1672 votes.

CAMBRIDGE LAWYER RUNS AS CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Oct. 14 —Atty. William St. Clair West, the first colored man to run for mayor of the city, where Harvard rears its hallowed walls, has been endorsed publicly by various ministers and political leaders of this section. Attorney West has had a long and interesting career since appearing on the news front. His courage in attempting what no other Negro has dared places him in a praiseworthy spot.

Pittsburgh
Courier
10-

Guardian
11-6-37

ROY F. TEIXEIRA

Boston, Mass.

Who made a gallant fight for city Councillor from Ward 9, winning 686 votes and running fourth in a field of nine candidates.

Guardian
11-6-37

ERNEST D. COOKE, ESQ.

Boston, Mass.

Candidate for City Council, Ward 9 received 1440 votes, running third in the election.

SPRINGFIELD COUNCIL WINNER

Chronicle 11-6-37 Boston, Mass.

Councilman-elect Attorney J. Clifford Clarkson and his family

Political - 1937
Elections.

Missouri.

MAYOR DICKMANN

St. Louis Argus
3-5-37

In the present campaign, to elect a mayor of the City of St. Louis, Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann may well base his campaign upon his record of giving the City of St. Louis a business-like administration. Then too, it is a well known fact that he has taken a keen interest in the welfare of the people of this city during his four years in office, and has not been lacking in sympathy for the poor. His reputation as being interested in all the people of the city, is one of which any public official may well be proud. He has been in the thickest of the fight for the Jefferson Memorial and for beautifying the river-front. The opposition to the river-front, it seems to us, is not made in good faith. There are thousands of men ready to go to work on this project; the United States Government is ready to put millions of dollars at the disposal of the commission to see that the work is carried on; the people of St. Louis have voted their share of the money; and the Mayor is standing in the forefront, saying, "To the front, St. Louis." We will need him for four more years to keep St. Louis going forward.

Robert S. Cobb Seeks Justice of Peace Job

10-8-'37

Call
10-9-37
Kansas City

JEFFERSON CITY. Mo.—Among the applicants for Justice of the Peace in this city to succeed Judge John G. Leslie, Democrat, who resigned, the county court has under consideration the name of Robert S. Cobb, attorney at law, Republican.

S. Cobb

Mr. Cobb has been a resident of this city for 18 years and ran on the Republican ticket for Justice of the Peace [illegible] received the normal vote of his party.

Political - 1937
Elections.

New Jersey

Re-Elected

11-7-37
Defender
Chicago

DR. FRANK S. HARGRAVE
Of Orange, N. J., who was elected on November 2 to the New Jersey legislature for the fifth time with a plurality of more than 2,500 votes. Of the 12 assemblymen from Essex county, Dr. Hargrave is the ranking member from the point of service.

Political – 1937
Elections.

New Jersey

Hargrave Wins

Afro-American

NEWARK, N.J. — Dr. Frank Hargrave, Essex County Republican nominee, polled 112,432 votes to win an Assembly seat from Charles Jenkins, Democrat and a newcomer to politics, who mustered 85,518 votes.

11-6-37

Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Hargrave has served several terms in the legislature. Mrs. Elisabeth Thomas, Jersey City Republican, was beaten by B. A. Beronio, white Democrat in Hudson County.

Political - 1937
Elections.

New York.

No Colored Alderman For Harlem This Year

Daily World
11-27-37
Atlanta Ga

NEW YORK—(By Al White for ANP)—For the first time in many years, there will be no colored representative in the council elected to govern the big city of New York, when that body meets on January succeeding the old Board of Aldermen.

That body usually had two colored representatives on it, one from the 19th District and one from the 21st District. But, with the new set-up, representation according to population, 75,000 persons being entitled to one representative, Harlem is "out in the cold."

Too many candidates ruined the chances for the election of at least one representative. There were four Conrad A. Johnson, Fusionist; Rev. John H. Johnson Independent; Julius MacClain, regular Tammany Democrat; and Charles Lynch, also Tammany Democrat.

MacClaVin was the last colored candidate eliminated in Manhattan, although he had secured over 30,000 votes. Rev. Johnson made the second best showing, Conrad A. Johnson, the third with Lynch counted out early in the running.

What effect this will have on the voters of the community is questionable. Although colored Aldermen on the Board did little to make their presence felt—as far as progressive and protective legislation in Harlem was concerned—at least their presence on the Board was a safeguard to an extent.

A long line of prominent personages have represented Harlem in this famous body, including, Fred R. Moore, George W. Harris; John A. Smith; Conrad Johnson; Henri Shields; Charles Lynch; are among those who have tasted the glories of office which brought $5,000 annually, plus such gratituities as go with office.

This group served in the Aldermanic chamber since 1920 and during their period of service, were regarded as the "political heads of their districts."

Frequently, these positions led to others more important in natoinal politics. This was particularly true of those who represented the Republican party. But their power waned some eight years ago when a gigantic democratic wave swept them into office.

Just what the result of the Proportional Representation election portends as far as colored New York is concerned can be seen only after the City Council is in operation.

members are urged to be present. Our aims for 1938 are as follows:

1. A permanent home for Daniel's Band.
2. A community center and church.
3. A nursery school for children of working mothers.
4. A kindergarten for pre-school age children.
5. Young peoples' clubs with library and reading rooms.
6. Conferences for parents and adults.

If you are interested in the above objectives for this community, join the Daniels Band, or send a donation to Mrs. Mable Chunn, 512 Holcomb St. East Point, Ga. We believe in free speech, free press free thinking, majority rule and loyalty to Christ.

T. R. Gaye, president
W. A. Quillian, supt.
Irene Dukes rep.

Unless Butler Is Elected No Negro Member Will Be In New Council

11-27-37
Age

The hope of observers and experts at the Manhattan canvass of Proportional representation ballots that the Rev. John H. Johnson, vicar of St. Martin's Church, would be among those elected turned to keen disappointment Monday when the votes of Rev. Johnson, who was in 11th place, were redistributed for candidates of the next choice. Rev. Johnson was the last remaining Negro candidate of the four starters and earlier in the count had appeared as a likely winner.

Of the four Negro candidates in the Manhattan Councilmanic race, Alderman Charles Lynch, who was running as an independent, polled the least number of votes, 2733 and was declared defeated Wednesday. His votes were re-sorted for their next choices and they gave a slight edge in the race to Julius S. McClain, regular Tammany Hall candidate, over Rev. Johnson.

The next Negro candidate to be declared defeated was former Alderman Conrad A. Johnson, Fusion nominee, whose votes when they were re-sorted went not to Rev. Johnson in large numbers as had been expected, but to Robert K. Straus, another Fusion candidate. Conrad Johnson's 11,437 votes in no small way helped place Straus in a commanding position in the race for one of the six places.

A nip and tuck race followed from then on to Saturday when on the 33rd count Rev. Johnson had 26,832 votes and McClain, 23,447 votes. McClain was declared defeated on the 35th count and his votes were distributed among the remaining 12 candidates left in the field. Of these Rev. Johnson gained most by the defeat, his standing at the end of the count being 29,705 votes, an increase of 2,873 votes. These votes also put Rev. Johnson in 11th place and sent Isaac Siegel, Republican candidate, to 12th place. When the day's work was ended Saturday, Siegel was declared defeated and his votes were sent to the various next choices for tabulation.

Rev. Johnson was not able to pick up enough votes from the transfer of votes from Siegel and on Monday he was declared defeated and his votes transferred. They went largely to Joseph Clark Baldwin, Republican, B. Charney Vladeck, American Laborite, and William Jay Schieffelin, Citizen's Non-Partisan. On the next count, Edward Corsi, Citizens Non-Partisan candidate, was eliminated and his votes re-distributed to the nine remaining candidates in the field.

At press time with the count almost completed, the winners appeared to be B. Charney Vladeck, Labor; Joseph Clark Baldwin, Republican; William A. Carroll, Democrat; Robert K. Straus, Fusion; John P. Nugent, Democrat and Howard Spellman Democrat.

Butler Still In Race

Over in Brooklyn where the original slate of candidates totaled 99, Benjamin F. Butler, Jr., well known Negro florist and fraternal leader, was still in 15th position on Monday night. With nine candidates to be elected, Butler had a bare chance to make the grade, since the four candidates who were to be eliminated before him were all either Republicans or City Fusionists.

The fight being waged by Butler was being keenly watched in the borough as it marked the first time that a Negro ran as a candidate of a major party in a borough-wide election and presages more recognition of the Negro voting strength.

Unless Butler is among the lucky nine candidates to be elected in Brooklyn, the new City Council, when it convenes on January 1st as the new body supplanting the Board of Aldermen, will be without a Negro member, a distinct loss to the race which in recent years has elected two members of the Board of Aldermen from the 19th and 21st districts in Manhattan.

Although Defeated, Butler Wins Great Moral Victory In City Councilmanic Contest Under P. R.

Age
12-4-37
New York

Sometimes you win when you lose.

The truth of that saying is illustrated in the case of Benjamin F. Butler, Jr., popular Brooklyn florist, who was last week declarel defeated in the final heat of a hectic run for the berth in New York's new City Council.

City-wide attention was focused on the spectacular run of the City-Fusionist Negro candidate when his vote tally soared to a dizzy 32,437, the World-Telegram and other New York dailies predicting he had quite a good chance for election to the Council seat.

On Friday Butler was eliminated. He had clung to the veritable tale end of the heated contest. The Brooklyn Daily Eagle declared that the 15,000 votes thrown from Butler's second choice votes to the support of Mrs. Genevieve Earle, only other Fusionist candidate in the final running, was the largest bloc of choice votes thrown to the support of any candidate in the entire tally.

And this week the man who ran a good race for the Council is still receiving the many telegrams and warm congratulatory handclasps of friends, supporters and well-wishers who are saying that a moral victory has been won in Kings County; that the wonderful showing which Brooklyn's Negro candidate made is an indication — and a strong one — to the major parties of the formidable voting strength and consciousness of Negroes.

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER

Praises P. R. System

Interviewed in his florist shop, 1710a Fulton street, on Monday, Butler had only the highest criticisms to make of the system of Proportional Representation.

"P. R. is a fine method of choosing the true representatives of the people," the florist-candidate declared. "If it were not for the inauguration of this system of voting our group would never have a chance to elect Negroes to the high places of the city's legislative machinery. Now, Negroes of the country and of the entire solution of their problem to deal with wholly and solely themselves. If they will only keep their forces together, build and not destroy, the next election will see Negroes well-represented in the City Council of New York."

Butler was non-committal toward inquiries as to whether he would enter the Councilmanic race in 1939.

"I am going to do the bidding of the people of Brooklyn," he declared.

And so the forist went back to the same old stand he has occupied for the past seventeen years, satisfying customers with th best of flowers — but if street-corner conferences and parlor discussions are to be trusted as barometical of the "bidding of the people of Brooklyn" Ben Butler will make another bid for a seat in the Council in 1939. And if the writer is any judge, the next try will pan out with overwhelming success.

Political - 1937
Elections.

New York

8 Democrats Seek Toga in 19th District

Afro American

90 Per Cent of Population Has Never Had Leader.

3-27-37

HEALY TRYING FOR COMEBACK

Baltimore Md.

Dickens and Steele Enter Race.

NEW YORK.—Eight aspirants for the Democratic leadership of the Nineteenth Assembly District have cast their political hats into the ring and at least two others are expected to announce, a survey, last week, revealed.

Although about 90 per cent of the population in the area is composed of colored, they have never had one of their own as a Democratic leader.

Unless an early consolidation of forces is effected, the indications are that Harry C. Perry, white incumbent, will succeed himself. However, it is reported that dissension exists with his co-leader, Miss Jean Wells.

Come-Back Attempted

Martin J. Healy, predecessor of Mr. Perry, is also attempting to stage a come-back.

A few weeks ago Fred D. Dickens, Harlem real estate broker, was conceded to have a wide margin over others, but recent events have threatened his advantage.

Others Out for Post

Dr. L. B. Capehart and Dr. James W. Thornton are once more out for the uost.

Javan A. Steele, a former Healy stalwart, who was made a city marshal when votes were needed for the Democratic cause a few years ago, is out on his own.

Charles Lynch, alderman from the district, who got into office on Perry's band-wagon though he later broke with the leader and set up his own club, is another aspirant.

Alderman Active

Opportunism is being read into his race because the new city charter, which goes into effect the first day of 1938, abolishes the board of aldermen.

Latest of those to enter the race is Darwin W. Telesford, an assistant attorney general. Not much has been heard about him and few opinions have been voiced.

N. Y.'s THIRD CITY MARSHAL NAMED

Courier 5-8-37

NEW YORK, May 4—New York's third Negro city marshal was appointed last Thursday by Mayor LaGuardia. This time the plum went to the borough of Brooklyn, the happy nominee being Joseph M. Washington, of 632 Classon avenue.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Eugene Faulkner, who serves as a marshal in the borough of Manhattan, was appointed during LaGuardia's first year in office. Another marshal, Javan M. Steele, was appointed during the last Democratic administration. The city marshals receive no salary, but some have been known to make in excess of $10,000 per year in fees.

Appointed

Amsterdam News 8-14-37

Chauncey M. Hooper

8-14-37

Benjamin T. B. Dyett

TWO RECEIVE JUICY PLUMS

Amsterdam News

For the first time in the history of this state Negroes were designated by the Democratic party to run on Election Day as members of the state constitutional convention.

Benjamin T. B. Dyett, assistant district attorney of New York county, was named by Herbert L. Bruce, Tammany leader of the 21st Assembly District, and Chauncey M. Hooper, major in the 369th Infantry, New York State National Guard, was selected by Harry C. Perry, Tammany leader of the 19th District.

8-14-37

Dyett will run from the 20th and Hooper from the 19th Senatorial district, respectively.

Considered one of the foremost honors that can be bestowed upon a citizen of this state, each man will receive $2,500 and part of his expenses, if elected to serve at the convention, which will begin the first part of 1938 and last throughout the year.

New York

The last constitutional convention called in this state was in 1915. at which time the state constitution was revised. And that will be the purpose of this one. Among the important questions that will be taken up is reapportionment of the congressional and state senatorial districts of New York, is was stated.

N.Y.

Among the imposing list of designated members to the convention are former Governor Alfred Smith, Max D. Steuer, famous lawyer, and John F. Curry, former leader of Tammany Hall. The names of Dyett and Hooper were accepted by Chistopher D. Sullivan, leader of Tammany, after designation by their district leaders.

SARA PELHAM SPEAKS ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR ASSEMBLYWOMAN

New York Age
8-14-37
New York

Mrs. Sara Pelham Speaks, of the Capital News Service; social worker, civic leader, and practising attorney of New York City, has accepted the designation as candidate for the Assembly of the Square Deal Republican Club of the Twenty-First Assembly District, and will seek nomination on the Republican ticket, at the Primary to be held September 16. 1937.

Mrs. Speaks is well-known both locally and nationally in Republican politics having served with the Republican National Committee during the past three presidential campaigns in responsible positions, and toured the Eastern States, organizing and speaking in behalf of the presidential candidates.

Locally she became interested in politics four years ago, when as the only woman district leader of a progressive and liberal movement within the Republican Party of New York County, she succeeded in wresting the control of the party in the Twenty-Second district from the old guard, and in setting a record by electing 49 out of 50 candidates for the county committee in the district under her leadership.

She has served as secretary of the Republican County Committee of the Twenty-Second District, and in 1934 was elected to represent that entire assembly in her district on the Republican State Committee. She resigned this post in 1935 to devote her entire time to her legal duties, which she was completing that spring.

Mrs. Speaks is the wife of Dr. F. Douglas Speaks, formerly of Springfield and Cincinnati, Ohio. She is the president and organizer of the Colonial Park Neighborhood Council chartered by the Municipal Community Councils of New York City, and a member of the North Harlem Community Council, the I. B. P. O. E. of W., the Eastern Star, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and an honorary member of the Mothers' Club.

She is a graduate of the public schools of Washington, D. C., where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Pelham, are well-known in social and civic circles. She attended Howard University; graduated from the University of Michigan and received the degree of Juris Doctor from the School of Law of New York University in June 1936, and was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York at once. Since that time she has been actively engaged in the practice of law.

The Square Deal Republican Club, pledged to good government and the reorganization of the Republican Party within the Twenty-First District along progressive and liberal lines more truly representative of the will of the party members, enjoys a unique history. Founded four years ago when the Republican party asked Mayor Fiorella H. LaGuardia to save the city from waste and extravagance the organization at that time pledged itself to support the Mayor in his efforts to bring good government to New York City. At that time the club's candidate for the Board of Alderman, Conrad A. Johnson, was elected against tremendous odds, and the club succeeded in electing one-third of the members of the County Committee in that district.

Two years later they succeeded in nominating Mr. Johnson, who was endorsed for re-election by the Mayor, by conducting a write-in campaign at the Primary election in 1935, one of the few times in the history of New York politics that a candidate has ever been successful in winning as a result of a write-in.

It was the first Republican Club to declare for renomination and reelection of Mayor LaGuardia a resolution to this effect being adopted at the club's general meeting in May.

The officers of the club are Harold C. Burton, president; Conrad A. Johnson, vice-president; Eugene Faulkner, City Marshall, executive committee chairman; Mrs. Camille Rodman, vice-chairman of the executive committee.

TAMMANY NAMES McCLAIN CANDIDATE

NEW YORK — Christopher D. Sullivan, leader of Tammany, this week announced the names of seven Tammany candidates for the City Council, one of them being Julian [illegible] McClain, of 211 West 138th Street, a lawyer, and a graduate of Lincoln University and LaSalle University.

TAMMANY NAMES McCLAIN TO RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL

With Passing of Manhattan's Board of Aldermen, Negro Gets First Chance on Borough-Wide Slate

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU

Courier
10-9-37

NEW YORK, Oct. 7—There is strong possibility that a Negro will sit with the new City Council which will take the place of the present Board of Aldermen under a new city charter next January 1.

The county of Manhattan, which includes Harlem, has twenty-three aldermen, of which two are Negroes. Under the proportional representation plan for the five boroughs of Greater New York, Manhattan will have only six councilmen and Tammany has done the unusual by nominating a Negro as one of its six candidates to fight for the available posts in the November elections.

Outstanding Sociologist

Julius S. McClain, who received the nomination, is an outstanding sociologist, the present director of the Columbus Hill Children's Center, a unit of the Children's Aid Society. He is a protege of Herbert L. Bruce, who is Tammany's only colored political boss. Bruce rules a district of 26,000 enrolled Democrats, white and colored, and McClain's own rise to a position of influence in the Democratic party may be traced to the campaign which resulted in the overthrow of white leadership in Bruce's stronghold. He is treasurer of Bruce's organization.

Until the advent of the Fushion Party four years ago, nomination by the Democratic Party would have been tantamount to election in Manhattan County. This is not true today because the Fusion Party and the new Labor Party, both of which are sponsoring separate slates of candidates for the City Council, will draw their greatest strength from the ranks of disgruntled Tammanyites and those who like to call themselves liberal Democrats.

May Draw Wide Support

The favorable phase for Negroes is that the vote for City Council will be on a borough-wide basis, and all enrolled voters in Harlem and other parts of the country, regardless of party affiliation, may vote for McClain. Voters will indicate their choice for the City Council in numerical order, and it is conceivable that McClain will poll upwards of 120,000 Negro votes in the 13th, 17th, 19th, 21st and 22d Assembly Districts. If McClain doesn't run very far behind in white sections of the city, his election is assured.

Tammany's six candidates include a Jew, a Catholic, a Protestant, a Negro, a woman and a Free Mason. Supporters of each have been asked to cooperate for the success of the entire slate.

In the meantime, the nomination of McClain is a signal honor for Negroes. He becomes the first member of his race to run for public office on the borough-wide ticket of a major party. It indicates the stature which Bruce has attained in the inner councils of his party and leaves high hopes for the nomination of a Negro for Congress by the dominant Democrats. The day may not be far off.

J. Dalmus Steele Named To City Marshall's Office

Courier
10-30-37

NEW YORK, Oct. 28—J. Dalmus Steele, Elk deputy of New York State, and a prominent Republican of many years' standing, was appointed last week by Mayor La Guardia as a deputy city marshal. He is the third Negro to be appointed to a similar post by Mayor LaGuardia. Steele succeeds Deputy City Marshal [illegible] A. Steele, a Negro Democrat, who resigned last week.

Political - 1937
Elections.

New York.

HARLEM HAS NEGRO SOLON

Rev. Johnson Elected on LaGuardia's Ticket

Chronicle 11-6-37

New York—Rev. John H. Johnson, Harlem Negro candidate of the Citizens' Non-Partisan Committee, was swept to victory in the City Council race here on Tuesday, coming in the earliest returns as one of the seven leaders in a contest in which forty-seven were entered. He was the first Negro to be seated under the new proportional representation plan on government.

Johnson's candidacy was viewed with little concern at first by the powerful heads of the Democratic groups in Harlem, which until recent years had enjoyed almost unlimited political sway in the Negro metropolis. When a decided trend toward the non-partisan, unified vote idea appeared, however, the unconcern turned to alarm.

The young Negro was swept into office in the same landslide that re-elected Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia, Fusionist candidate.

Sara Speaks Makes Good Showing, But Democratic Assemblymen Re-elected

12-13-37
New York Age
New York, N.Y.

In the aftermath of the New York City election Harlem is all agog over the phenomenal run of Mrs. Sara Pelham Speaks, candidate for member of the State Assembly in the 21st Assembly District on the Republican-Fusion-Progressive tickets, against the seasoned Tammany politician, William T. Andrews, incumbent.

In 1934, Mr. Andrews was elected to the Assembly by a majority of over 4,000 votes over his Republican-Fusion opponent, J. Dalmus tSteele, and in 1935 he was again elected to office by a large majority, his opponent on the Republican ticket, Lamar Perkins, trailing him by about 7,000 vote; while in 1936. Mr. Andrews polled more than 24,000 votes of a total of 34,000 with a majority of over 18,000 votes over his nearest opponent, John W. Moore, Republican. His vote represents more than 10,000 votes more than the total vote cast for his three opponents, including the much persecuted Angelo Herndon, who ran as the candidate of the Communist Party.

Came 1937 and the young woman candidate, the first to seek this office in the 21st Assembly District,, Mrs. Sara Pelham Speaks, the candidate of the Square Deal Republican Club, the regular Republican organization of the District, assisted by a Non-Partisan Committee composed of one hundred women of all parties, in a two week's campaign, caught the imagination of the voters of the district who were urged to make her the first Negro woman in the Assembly, and Mr. Andrews' 18,000 majority of 1936, faded away to a few hundred votes. Early reports, including radio announcements based on initial returns reported Mrs. Speaks with having won the district. Later returns showed she lost by 400 or more votes, the official canvass of the district not having been completed.

Analysis of the vote reveals that Mrs. Speaks carried most of the colored election districts, including the 48th district, the home of the Beavers-Ramapo Democratci Club, the Tammany Organization of the District, and was the choice of the majority of the colored voters of the district.

In the 19th Assembly District, Robert Justice was re-elected to the Assembly on the Tammany ticket over his Republican-Fusion opponent, Ira Kemp, also by a very small majority of less than 300 votes.

REV. JOHNSON LIKELY TO WIN CITY COUNCIL SEAT

Given Better Chance Than Julius S. CcClain To Win Coveted Post

Age
11-20-37
New York, N.Y.

As the now famous Proportional Representation count entered its final phase Tuesday in Manhattan and Brooklyn, there was every indication that Negroes would be represented in the new City Council of some 25 members by at least one member from Manhattan and there was a bare possibility that another might come from Brooklyn.

No one would venture to name just who the successful Councilmen would be as the first count was not completed until Tuesday at which time was started the subsequent transfer of votes from defeated and out of the running candidates. Of one thing all were agreed, however, and that was that Tammany Hall would not dominate the new body as it had its predecessor, the Board of Aldermen. Les than half of the new Councilmen are expected to be Democrats with the balance composed of Republican, American Labor and Citizens' Non-Partisan candidates.

In Manhattan the interest among Negroes lies in the fight for the one place which seems now to be certain to be won by a Negro. At the close of the count Tuesday evening, Julius S. McClain, Democrat, was leading the Negro candidates with 17,145 1st choice votes with Rev. John H. Johnson, Citizens' Non-Partisan candidate, closely behind with 16,166 votes. In third place is former Alderman Conrad A. Johnson with 11,437. Alderman Charles A. Lynch with 2,733 votes trailed in fourth place. Lynch is expected to be declared defeated later in the week at which time all votes credited to him will be resorted.

It is through the process of defeats and transfers of votes that the surprises comes, for, as one authority at the Manhattan armory said, "anything is liable to happen when the transfers are completed. All those who now stand among the first twenty on the list are in the running and any of them may be elected." He refused to pass any other opinion except to state that he believed that Rev. Johnson would come out higher at the end than Julius S. McClain although McClain is now in the lead.

This opinion was voiced by others who are working at the various candidates' tables who declare that the Rev. Mr. Johnson will pick up more votes than McClain on subsequent transfers. In fact, it semed to be the consensus of opinion that McClain would drop out of the race when the votes of the other Democratic candidates surpassed his while on the other hand Rev. Johnson will pick up thousands of votes from other candidates when they are defeated.

It was said that Rev. Johnson was number 2 choice on practically all of Conrad Johnson's ballots and that when Conrad Johnson's votes are transferred among the later defeats, Rev. Johnson will be credited with practically all of the former Alderman's votes. In like manner, Rev. Johnson is number 2 choice on many of the weaker Citizens' Non-Partisan candidates' ballots and this, too, will stand him in good stead when the transfers are effected.

Brooklynite Stands High

Over in Brooklyn, Benjamin Butler well known Negro business and fraternal man, still continues well up among the leaders, and there is a chance that he, too, might pick up votes in the transfer of votes from defeated candidates. Chester R. Thomas, former Brooklyn editor of The Age, who ran an independent campaign, still had enough votes to remain in the runnig Tuesday night, his total vote being over the 2,000.

NO NEGRO IN CITY COUNCIL

Benjamin F. Butler, Jr., Is Eliminated In Brooklyn As P. R. Counting Ends

Age
12-4-37
New York, N.Y.

The last hope of Negro representation in the new City Council which replaces the present Board of Aldermen after January 1, 1938 was shattered Friday when canvassers of Proportional Representation ballots in Brooklyn eliminated Benjamin F. Butler, Jr., on the 56th count and distributed his votes which totalled 31,406 to their respective second choices.

Butler, who made the most sensational run of all the Negro candidates in Brooklyn and in Manhattan, had reached 14th place on the list of candidates before he was eliminated. He also outlasted the Rev. John H. Johnson who ran in Manhattan and who was eliminated on Monday, the last of the four Negro candidates running in Manhattan to be declared defeated.

The Brooklyn florist who was making his initial entry as a political candidate in his borough had the distinction of being the first Negro to run on the borough wide ticket of a major party—he was a Fusion candidate—and he made an excellent showing. Up to Thursday, it had been confidently expressed by officials that Butler would probably be elected but subsequent defeats of candidates with fewer votes than his did not materially add to his total to the extent they had been predicted and on Friday was declared defeated.

As a result of Butler's elimination, the city's lawmaking body will be the first time in some 20 years, meet without a Negro as a member. Under the old system of the Board of Aldermen, two Negroes were elected every two years from the 19th and 21st Aldermanic Districts, both in Harlem, but under P.R. where candidates have to run in an entire county, no Negro can win election unless the solid Negro vote of the county goes to him as 75,000 votes are necessary to insure election.

New York Age
11-13-37
New York, N.Y.

THE LABOR PARTY

THE IMPRESSIVE SHOWING of the American Labor party at the polls last week in its first test of strength in a municipal election in New York City, causes the thoughtful political observer to pause and wonder if the advent of this new group doesn't mean a transition in the political life of the nation. While the Labor Party failed to win with its own candidates, as in Detroit, it was a contributing factor in several of the major victories at the polls last week. This was especially true in New York City where close to half a million votes were polled, with the result that Labor is claiming to have put over the LaGuardia ticket.

During the mayoralty campaign in New York City, the charge was repeatedly made by the Democratic Mayoralty candidate that the Labor Party was in reality the Communist Party in disguise and that the Mayor had the endorsement and active support of the "reds." That charge was quickly disavowed by no less a person than Governor Herbert H. Lehman who in his campaign talk for Judge Mahoney declared that the American Labor Party was not a "red" party.

As we see it, the chief danger of a Labor Party lies in the fact that it will tend to make us all more class conscious and in the control of a radical or unscrupulous element it can become a menace to the industrial peace of the nation. Labor on the whole is levelheaded and will soon realize whether the backers of this new party are working in the interest of their group or for their own personal gain. This will require time, but in the meanwhile, the heads of labor are consolidating their gains and are talking of putting a complete slate in the national election of 1940. In fact, the name of F. H. LaGuardia is being linked with that of John L. Lewis as the heads of Labor's first national ticket.

Whether the Labor Party is here to stay or not will depend on the guidance of those now at its helm. Its appearance at this time marks the definite end of that era in the United States when the ideal of every laborer was to become a capitalist and when most of the laborers felt that there was opportunity for him to enter business for himself so long as he worked hard and saved his money.

In the years to come there is bound to be less emphasis in the things that labor and capital have in common, and more in those things in which they have no share. In other words, there will be a growing feeling of class consciousness. The Negro group are largely workers—"hewers of wood and drawers of water"—and their interest will naturally lie with the laborers of other races.

Both old line parties are reaping, in this class movement the harvest of their years of indifference to the needs and wants of those who work with their hands. They would do well to study this new phenomena in American politics and do what they can to hold on to their present following by giving both the Negro and other groups a larger share in the councils of their parties.

New York.

Political-1937
Elections.

FORD IN RADIO ADDRESS ASKS NEGRO BACK LABOR PARTY

NEW YORK, Oct.--(CNA)- In a radio broadcast over Station WMCA, New York, James W. Ford, nationally known Negro leader and Communist candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1936, urged New York's Negro voters to defeat rising reaction in this city by voting for American Labor Party candidates in the coming municipal elections. The Labor Party has endorsed Mayor La Guardia for re-election and is running several candidates for the new City Council.

Crusader News Agency

"The present period is comparable to the period just prior to the Civil War in 1860 when the issue was: whether the Union shall endure and democracy by be preserved in America," Ford told his vast radio audience. "The Civil War proved that the preservation of democracy and the Union could only be attained by the destruction of slavery."

10-11-37

New York, he pointed out, was a center of progressive thought that inspired the entire country, adding that it "was also a hot bed of reaction. Here Southern planters and their friends conspired against the Union.

New York, N.Y.

Today, again, he warned, New York is a focal point in the struggle between progress and reaction, on the question "whether we shall have a progressive city administration or reactionaries in power; whether workers shall enjoy the right to freely organize and bargain collectively., whether the unemployed shall have adequate relief., whether little children shall be brought up in airy dwellings, sunlight and happy recreational centers., and whether my people - the Negro people, in Harlem, Brooklyn, Crown Heights and the entire city - shall be brutally beaten by police thugs and suffer death through disease and pestilence because of horrible slums and congested ghettoes."

The Communist leader vigorously assailed Jeremiah T. Mahoney, Tammany candidate who is opposing Mayor La Guardia in the Mayoralty race: "It behooves the Negro people to take note of the backers of Mr. Mahoney and carefully analyze their program," he warned.

"The very first public utterance of candidate Mahoney called for more police. For what? Who of us cannot recall with forebodings that Tammany-controlled police provoked and killed people of Harlem on that ill-fated March 19, 1935? Tammany iss is asking the colored people to vote Mahoney to "protect their relief checks." In the next breath Mahoney makes wild attacks on the Workers Alliance and the former unemployed councils - organizations that fought and gained relief for the people of Harlem. It is belittling the intelligence of Negro people for Mr. Mahoney and Tammany to try to ride into office by exposing their own aims, that is, more police to attack the unemployed. By fighting everything that is progressive, and labelling it "red," the mailed fist protrudes through their silk gloves."

"In proportion as Negroes partitipate in the American Labor Party their interests will be enhanced many fold," Ford continued. "They will not be merely following but will become part of a movement that can be shaped and checked by its participants. The Negro people do not have to struggle for leadership, as in Tammany Hall., they are already a part of the American Labor Party. The building of a genuinely representative party is a two-fold process, (1) support on the part of colored people to that party, and (2) the winning of the support of the colored people by the American Labor Party.

"The Negro people have everything to gain from the victory of the American Labor Party. Their best friends and allies are the white working people and the progressive middle class, who have embarked on independent political action through the A. L. P. The white workers will win better conditions by fighting for better conditions for their colored brothers."

CAPEHART GETS RECOUNT VOTES

Amsterdam News

10-16-37

The recount of ballot boxes instituted by Dr. L. R. Capehart, Democratic candidate for the leadership of the 19th A. D., was completed Monday under the jurisdiction of Supreme Court Justice Shientag. As a result of the recount three election districts were regained by the Capehart group.

Dr. Capehart was originally counted out by over fourteen votes in the 12th E. D., but he won thirty ballots in the recount. Justice Shientag ordered these ballots restored to the Capehart group. In the 5th E. D., which was formerly given to Perry, Dr. Capehart gained six county committeemen and tied twelve. In the 9th E. D., Dr. Capehart gained three additional committeemen and tied eleven. In the 31st E. D. the ballots were found unsealed and not even in the ballot box.

New York City

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At it stands now, under the rules of the party, Dr. Capehart will gain twenty-three additional votes on account of ties in two E. D.'s. The motion for a new county committee convention will be heard by Justice Shientag during the week and a decision is expected not later than Monday.

Dr. Capehart said: "The people of Harlem are entitled to fair elections and honest counts in the election districts. The fraud uncovered by the re-opening of ballot boxes has justified my contention that I was elected the leader of the district on primary day.

"I thank the race-loving Negroes of the 19th A. D. who have so loyally supported me in this fight and urge them to continue their support in the new county committee convention. In the event of my election as the new leader of the 19th A. D., I plan no reprisals against friends or foes. We are all Democrats. We shall all forget the past and unite to elect the next mayor, Judge Jeremiah T. Mahoney."

Political-1937
Elections.

New York.

FORD IN RADIO ADDRESS ASKS NEGRO BACK LABOR PARTY

NEW YORK, Oct.--(CNA)- In a radio broadcast over Station WMCA, New York, James W. Ford, nationally known Negro leader and Communist candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1936, urged New York's Negro voters to defeat rising reaction in this city by voting for American Labor Party candidates in the coming municipal elections. The Labor Party has endorsed Mayor La Guardia for re-election and is running several candidates for the new City Council.

Crusader News Agency

"The present period is comparable to the period just prior to the Civil War in 1860 when the issue was: whether the Union shall endure and democracy by be preserved in America," Ford told his vast radio audience. "The Civil War proved that the preservation of democracy and the Union could only be attained by the destruction of slavery."

10-11-37

New York, he pointed out, was a center of progressive thought that inspired the entire country, adding that it "was also a hot bed of reaction. Here Southern planters and their friends conspired against the Union.

New York, N.Y.

Today, again, he warned, New York is a focal point in the struggle between progress and reaction, on the question "whether we shall have a progressive city administration or reactionaries in power; whether workers shall enjoy the right to freely organize and bargain collectively., whether the unemployed shall have adequate relief., whether little children shall be brought up in airy dwellings, sunlight and happy recreational centers., and whether my people - the Negro people, in Harlem, Brooklyn, Crown Heights and the entire city - shall be brutally beaten by police thugs and suffer death through disease and pestilence because of horrible slums and congested ghettoes."

The Communist leader vigorously assailed Jeremiah T. Mahoney, Tammany candidate who is opposing Mayor La Guardia in the Mayoralty race: "It behooves the Negro people to take note of the backers of Mr. Mahoney and carefully analyze their program," he warned.

"The very first public utterance of candidate Mahoney called for more police. For what? Who of us cannot recall with forebodings that Tammany-controlled police provoked and killed people of Harlem on that ill-fated March 19, 1935? Tammany is is asking the colored people to vote Mahoney to "protect their relief checks." In the next breath Mahoney makes wild attacks on the Workers Alliance and the former unemployed councils - organizations that fought and gained relief for the people of Harlem. It is belittling the intelligence of Negro people for Mr. Mahoney and Tammany to try to ride into office by exposing their own aims, that is, more police to attack the unemployed. By fighting everything that is progressive, and labelling it "red," the mailed fist protrudes through their silk gloves."

"In proportion as Negroes participate in the American Labor Party their interests will be enhanced many fold," Ford continued. "They will not be merely following but will become part of a movement that can be shaped and checked by its participants. The Negro people do not have to struggle for leadership, as in Tammany Hall., they are already a part of the American Labor Party. The building of a genuinely representative party is a two-fold process, (1) support on the part of colored people to that party, and (2) the winning of the support of the colored people by the American Labor Party.

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COUNCIL FIGHT BY M'CLAIN IS TO AID HARLEM

Desire for Service Motivates Him In Running

Amsterdam News

Julius S. McClain, regular Democratic candidate for the new City Council, is in the fight to win.

Mr. McClain declared to The Amsterdam News Monday, "I believe in, and have practiced all my life, fighting for issues in the most effective way, after having studied the problem and reached a decision on the plan of action. Blatant noise about a problem does not solve it. I believe in digging in and working for what I desire to accomplish. Hard work and not empty words is my motto."

10-23-37
New York

Who is this McClain who has been designated by New Deal Democracy to be one of its six Manhattan candidates for the City Council? Laborer, plasterer, building contractor, school teacher, student, social worker in the guidance and rehabilitation of youth, and ardent churchman, Mr. McClain was born in Greenville, S. C., thirty-nine years ago.

He received his early education in Philadelphia, where he was taken at the age of six months by an uncle, William Maxwell.

Mrs. Helen McClain, the candidate's wife, gives an insight into the kind of a councilman she believes her husband will make when she said, "I am the greatest rooter for the election of my husband. A good husband and father must make a good city father." The McClains were married on October 28, 1934. They have one daughter, Suzanne, who is nine months old.

After graduating from Lincoln University in 1922, Mr. McClain studied pedagogy, social work and human relations at Temple, Columbia and New York universities. He is a veteran of the World War, having served in the American Expeditionary Forces in France for sixteen months. He was gassed in the fighting at the Metz sector, where he also received two bayonet wounds over the heart.

He's Self-Made Man.

Like many other men in public life, Mr. McClain is a self-made man. He earned money to pay for his education by working as a plasterer and a Pullman porter. At times it was laborious work at night and pouring over textbooks and listening to lectures in day classes and vice versa, but McClain pursued his objectives doggedly, and as he said:

"Looking back, over the years, I count myself a fair success. The idea, as it were, was to do whatever task came to my hands to be done at a particular time."

As interested as he is in all public and community problems, there is none that he believes more important than the guidance and rehabilitation of youth, he declared. The call to the service of youth proved irresistible when he was a teacher in the Philadelphia public school system. Here he had a life job with a pension after retirement, but he gave up teaching to become the director of the Wissahicton Boys' Club in Philadelphia. "Here the work proved so interesting that I contributed funds out of my own limited salary to pay for the college education of seven youngsters," he added.

Seek Seats in N. Y. City Council

Afro-American

NEW YORK—Harlem has five candidates for the city council, to be elected November 3, by proportional representation, a plan being tried here this fall for the first time.

10-23-37

The candidates are:

The Rev. John J. Johnson, pastor of the Church of St. Martin P.E., Lenox Avenue and 122nd Street; Conrad A. Johnson, Charles Lynch, Julius McClain, and William G. Clerk.

Non-Partisan Candida[illegible]

The Rev. Mr. Johnson is the candidate of the Citizens' Non-Partisan Committee, which has sponsored a non-partisan slate, including enrolled members of four parties—Democrat, Republican, American Labor, and Socialist.

Some Harlem leaders have feared that five candidates in the field would succeed only in injuring one another, and that because of the number of candidates, Harlem will lose its chance for fair representation.

The Rev. Mr. Johnson has emphasized that this is not true now, as it was under the old district system, and a citizen may vote for all colored candidates, writing number before their names in the order of his preference.

Chester Thomas Enters Race For City Council

Age
10-23-37
New York N.Y.

When the new City Council convenes in January, 1938, there is one Brooklynite who hopes to partake in the deliberations of the municipal body. And he is pictured above. Chester Thomas-er-pardon us, Attorney Chester Thomas, former Brooklyn Editor of The New York Age and author of that once ever-so-popular column WITH BROOKLYN YOUNGSTERS. The youngster has high hopes of being sent to the Council having behind him the fully pledged support of the United Action Democratic Association, the National Colored War Veterans Post, No. 12, The Afro-Protective League, the Nevada Crusader League of Brooklyn, the Abeenedgo Cultural and Ethical Society and numerous other civic and educational organizations of the borough. In his days of columning Chester made a lot of friends among Brooklyn youngsters. And a lot of those youngsters are probably now first voters. With his large following and the earnest sincerity with which Chet undertakes all that he does undertake, it loks like chances won't be so bad for the young ambitious politician. Lots of luck.

THE NEW CITY COUNCIL

SOME WEEKS AGO we editorialized that the Negro has as much chance of being elected to the new City Council as he had of becoming a Congressman from the 21st Congressional District, which includes Harlem. But this does not seem to be the opinion of some of our more experienced politicians, for there is no death of candidates.

Age
10-16-37
New York

According to The New York Times, some 250 people have filed petitions for the 25 City Council posts. Of this group at least half a dozen are Negroes. Benjamin Butler, Brooklyn florist, has filed petitions in Kings County, while five Harlemites have also filed petitions. Julius S. McClain, who managed Herbert L. Bruce's recent leadership fight in the 21st A. D., has been named a candidate by Tammany Hall. The Rev. John H. Johnson, vicar of St. Martin's P. E. Chapel and a member of the Emergency Relief Bureau, has the Fusion endorsement; while Former Alderman Conrad A. Johnson is a Republican candidate, and Alderman Charles Lynch is an independent candidate. The Labor Party, it is reported, will also have a Negro candidate.

This is the first election under the new plan of proportional representation and the general public is not very well acquainted with the plan. As we understand it winning candidates must receive at least 75,000 votes and residents of Manhattan will have an opportunity to vote for five candidates. There isn't much more than 75,000 Negro votes among all parties in Manhattan. This means that Negro candidates cannot hope to win by simply appealing to their own group on racial lines. They must go into every district and make a campaign on their personal fitness and personality, mix with the candidates of other racial groups and sell themselves to the voters.

From this point of view, the campaign for Councilman should benefit the Negro group educationally, and we shall watch with interest to see if white Tammanyites, for example, will support the choice of their party without regard to race. If they do, it proves that to secure the nomination of a Negro for Congressman on both major tickets would pave the way for national representation for the people of Harlem.

Political - 1937
Elections.

North Carolina

Three Are Candidates For Charlotte Offices

College President's Wife Seeks School Board Post

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va
4-24-37

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — Three Negro candidates tossed their hats in the political ring here as the time for registration for participation in the city's primaries expired, Saturday, April 17. One of the candidates, a prominent woman educator, seeks a position on the city school board. Two men entered the race for the Charlotte city council.

Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, wife of the president of Johnson C. Smith University, is a candidate for the Board of Education. Her opponent will be Mrs. G. S. Horne. A. E. Spears, district manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company and Zack Alexander, nationally known fraternal man, local civic worker, and secretary-manager of the Alexander Funeral Home, are candidates for membership on the city council.

These candidates must survive the primary election, April 26. The general election will be held on May 4.

Charlotte has about 25,000 white voters and about 4,500 registered Negro voters.

Two years ago, Bishop Dale, state vice president of the American Legion, was a candidate for the city council, polling more than 3,000 votes. When one considers the augmented registration of Negroes since that time, it is entirely possible that one or more of the candidates may be put over this time.

Negroes Run For Office in Nor' Car'lina

Amsterdam News
4-24-37
New York City

CHARLOTTE, N. C., April 21 (ANP).—Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, prominent woman leader in civic and educational circles and wife of the president of Johnson C. Smith University, last week filed notice of her candidacy for the city school board, she being one of two Negro candidates seeking municipal positions at the forthcoming election.

The other aspirant is A. E. Speaks, local manager North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, who is a candidate from Ward [illegible] city councilman.

Mrs. McCrorey's opponent for the school board post will be Mrs. G. S. Horne. In Ward 1, besides Spears, three council members are running for re-election, two of whom must be eliminated, because the two-limit has been set by law to represent any one ward. Spears' present job is to survive the initial elimination. Primary election is on April 26, the general election on Mav 4.

North Carolina.

Political - 1937
Elections.

Fear Of K.K.K. Kills N. C. Candidate

Journal and Guide

Jake Crawford of East Spencer Drops Dead; 2 Others In Race

5-1-37

EAST SPENCER, N. C.—The Ku Klux Klan reared its ugly head in the South again here and struck death dealing fear into the heart of Jake Crawford, candidate for the City Council in this North Carolina town, located near Salisbury, N. C. Crawford dropped dead Tuesday morning from heart failure caused by intimidation.

Norfolk Va.

But despite the Ku Klux Klan's threats, two other men, Nathaniel Brown and Frank Richardson, entered the Democratic primary here as candidates for the office of aldermen. Following threats of mobbing the Federal government was called in to investigate.

The primary has been called off for fear that these candidates might win. Threatening letters have been sent by the K. K. K. to these two candidates, warning them that unless they withdraw they would be mobbed. These letters were signed by "Two hundred white men of this county K. K. K."

Groups of white men went to Crawford's home looking for him. On the second visit he had been secreted away by friends to avoid friction and violence.

IMPORTANT CASE

Brown and Richardson, chief actors in this small town drama with a stage setting as broad as the United States and as fundamentally important as is the validation of the rights of American citizens to exercise their constituitonal prerogatives, emphatically asserted that they would not withdraw.

According to a statement from the Negro Civic League, East Spencer found itself at the close of registration with ten more colored qualified voters than white. And around that unusual phenomenum hinges a significant episode in Southern history.

5-1-37

Up to now the Federal government has been called in, one man has died from fear, two others have been threatened with violence by the Ku Klux Klan, white citizens are preparing to mob two colored citizens, and a municipal election hangs in the balance.

Norfolk Va.

What is in store for this community before the election is finished May 4 is a matter of conjecture. Until that time however a nervous citizenry watches, ever fearful of a major racial disturbance.

The K. K.K. letter follows: "Negro if you don't withdraw as a candidate in the campaign, you will be mobbed. Two hundred white men of this county K. K K."

Charlotte N. C. Observer
April 17, 1937.

TWO FOR MAYOR, 26 FOR COUNCIL ARE IN CONTEST

Eight Are Filed For Three Places on School Board.

THREE NEGROES TO RUN

Two Council Candidates From Each Ward to Be Chosen; Four Filed Yesterday.

An even three dozen candidates for 15 municipal offices were officially on the mark last night as the legal period for filing expired at midnight.

Two men—Mayor Ben E. Douglas and former Mayor Arthur H. Wearn—are running for mayor; twenty-six men are candidates for the 11 places on the city council; and five men and three women are in the running for the three places available on the school board.

Of the candidates for council, two are negroes, A. E. Spears of the first ward and Z. Alexander of the second ward, and of the candidates for the school board, one—Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, wife of the president of Johnson C. Smith university—is a negro.

Only one ward of the city's 11 wards does not offer a candidate for the council. It is Ward 3. In four others, Ward 5, Ward 9, Ward 10, and Ward 11, there will be no contest, and the lone candidate in each will be certified from the primary Monday, April 26, to the election May 4.

TWO FROM EACH WARD.

In the primary voting the two candidates in each ward receiving the largest number of votes—in event there are more than two—will have their names placed upon the ballots for the election. If there are but two, both will have their names on the ballots, and if there is only one, then his name will go on the ballot, regardless of the number of votes received, and in the election the 11 receiving the largest number of votes will be named to the council.

Yesterday four candidates filed for the council: John F. Barbee, Ward 6; Dr. William E. Wishart, Ward 7; Ben F. Favell and Leon Lawrence, Ward 8. Rev. Herbert Spaugh, pastor of the Myers Park Moravian church, filed for the school board.

Mr. Favell, in entering the primary contest, released a statement declaring he was offering "after earnest solicitation of my friends." He said he was not "the candidate of a clique or combination. If elected, I shall reserve the right to cast my vote upon each issue as it presents itself in the light of actual conditions," and declared he would "not be embarrassed or hampered by previous campaign promises. A man in office often forgets such promises, and I am making none. An official will vote usually in accord with his habits of life.

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"There is no need to mention the tremendous importance of the proper administration of civic affairs during the next two years," Mr. Favell added. "Every citizen is familiar with that. If elected, I will do the best I can to insure a sane, economical, impartial and clean administration of the city's affairs. A councilman is not a dictator but a servant of the people. As such he should at all times hear patiently and courteously the plea of any citizen. If elected, I will go into office with an open mind and a willingness to serve to the best of my ability for the advancement of our city, materially, mentally, and morally, without waste or partiality."

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Dr. Wishart, well known Charlotte physician and surgeon, who made a strong run two years ago, was the last candidate to file. He reported at the office of the Mecklenburg county board of elections in the Court arcade shortly before the closing of the office, paid his $5 fee and asked to be enrolled as a candidate from Ward 7. Rev. Mr. Spaugh was the last candidate to file for the school board.

Only 16 candidates will be in the second race for the council. Six wards will have two candidates in that final election, four wards will have one candidate, and one will have none. Six candidates for the school board will survive to the election. The next mayor, however, will be named in the primary — unless Mr. Douglas and Mr. Wearn should tie, which hardly would happen in a million such contests.

Knoxville, Tenn. News
May 6, 1937

RUNNING TRUE TO FORM

OVER AT CHARLOTTE, NORTH Carolina, a city of near 70,000 population, live 30,000 Negroes who have for near a half century been surrounded by the finest educational and religious institutions. The mammoth and vastly important Johnson C. Smith University, presided over by that well qualified, earnest and unselfish leader, Dr. H. L. McCrorey, is located there, as well as the great publishing house of the AME Zion connection. Many of the most outstanding leaders of the Zion church, including the late Bishop George W. Clinton, Bishop Bruce and others lived in that city and exercised fine influence. Nearby are Barber - Scotia College, and Livingstone College, two or the race's finest.

Under the leadership of President McCrorey, many white friends of Negro education, including such southern millionaires as the Duke brothers, have been induced to contribute millions of dollars for new buildings and other equipment about Johnson C. Smith. In his successful administration, Doctor McCrorey has had right by his side, and working earnestly and untiringly, Mrs. McCrorey, brilliant, fearless, interested in humanity in general and well acquainted with the needs of her people in every detail. The wife of the veteran educator is the very finest type of womanhood.

An election was held in Charlotte last week and among the offices to be filled was a membership on the city board of education. A Negro civic organization, realizing the superior qualifications of Mrs. McCrorey, to represent her racial group in this important position, persuaded her to allow her name to go before the voters as a candidate for education board member. When the votes were tabulated in the election of Monday, April 26, it appeared that the Negro race's standard bearer in the contest for education board member received the paltry number of 1313 votes, out of the tremendous Negro population of 30,000.

Two other Negro candidates for councilmanic offices in the same election; also representative and well qualified Negro citizens received even smaller votes.

The poor showing of these Negro candidates is no reflection on the candidates themselves. Such a deplorable state of affairs places at the very doors of the at least five

Political - 1937
Elections.

North Carolina.

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OVER AT CHARLOTTE, NORTH Carolina, a city of near 70,000 population, live 30,000 Negroes who have for near a half century been surrounded by the finest educational and religious institutions. The mammoth and vastly important Johnson C. Smith University, presided over by that well qualified, earnest and unselfish leader, Dr. H. L. McCrorey, is located there, as well as the great publishing house of the AME Zion connection. Many of the most outstanding leaders of the Zion church, including the late Bishop George W. Clinton, Bishop Bruce and others lived in that city and exercised fine influence. Nearby are Barber - Scotia College, and Livingstone College, two or the race's finest.

Under the leadership of President McCrorey, many white friends of Negro education, including such southern millionaires as the Duke brothers, have been induced to contribute millions of dollars for new buildings and other equipment about Johnson C. Smith. In his successful administration, Doctor McCrorey has had right by his side, and working earnestly and untiringly, Mrs. McCrorey, brilliant, fearless, interested in humanity in general and well acquainted with the needs of her people in every detail. The wife of the veteran educator is the very finest type of womanhood.

An election was held in Charlotte last week and among the offices to be filled was a membership on the city board of education. A Negro civic organization, realizing the superior qualifications of Mrs. McCrorey, to represent her racial group in this important position, persuaded her to allow her name to go before the voters as a candidate for education board member. When the votes were tabulated in the election of Monday, April 26, it appeared that the Negro race's standard bearer in the contest for education board member received the paltry number of 1313 votes, out of the tremendous Negro population of 30,000.

Two other Negro candidates for councilmanic offices in the same election; also representative and well qualified Negro citizens received even smaller votes.

The poor showing of these Negro candidates is no reflection on the candidates themselves. Such a deplorable state of affairs places at the very doors of the at least five

or six thousand lethargous, indifferent Charlotte Negro men and women who failed to march to the polls and cast votes for their candidates, responsibility for the poor showing. No excuse sufficeth. The situation at Charlotte is just another concrete example of the Negro running true to form, wherein his failure to have ample representation in similar, as well as many other connections, is wholly attributable to the indifference of Negroes themselves. In ninety-nine per cent of the cases Negroes are without proper justification as they register complaint indicating that the white race impedes the Negro's progress. The Charlotte situation offers an example.

When Negroes awake to the extent of taking advantage of the opportunities right at their very doors, many of the so-called injustices and hardships complained of will be entirely eliminated. It must be accomplished from within the ranks of the race.

Political - 1937
Elections.

Ohio.

Clevelander Loses In Judgeship Race; 3 Councilmen Chosen

CLEVELAND, Ohio — (ANP) — Apparently, the most difficult job for Cleveland Negro Voters to do is to elect a race man as judge.

Some eight years ago Atty. Alexander Martin, Sr., ran for the municipal judgment. He lost. It was said that he lost because of his non-social activities and that he was not popular with the Negro voters.

Several years later he tried again and was met with the same good fortune as at first. He was greatly defeated this time. He became discouraged and quietly retired from political activities.

Atty. Chester K. Gillespie, who made himself known throughout the nation when he gained national popularity by successfully handling the Doris Weaver case at Columbus, tried for the judgeship. Formerly of Ohio State Legislature body, his chances were, apparently, better than Atty. Martin's had been. At the first tabulation, there was no race judge elected.

Weekly Review
11-21-37
Atlanta, Ga.

Tuesday, Nov. 2, Atty. Norman Selby Minor was the man fitted and qualified for the judgeship. His name was on the ballot. Autos with loud speakers atop them shouted "Vote for Minor" throughout the "Big Four" wards, predominately Negroes.

Minor, assistant county prosecutor, a position he has held for the past eight years, was considered by all who knew him, competent, efficient and well-qualified for the municipal judgeship. He had been endorsed by almost every civic and political organization in the city as well as the metropolitan dailies.

Negroes marched to the polls and cast their lot with him 100 per cent after having been "schooled," as some politicians are want to say endeavoring to accomplish the one big job. It must be said that Mr Minor polled more votes than any Negro candidate ever did before. Final tabulations found him exactly 1,443 votes behind the second runner-up. Sixty-four thousand and a few hundred votes were not enough to elect him. He was defeated.

But Negroes here are greatly elated over the outcome even though they were defeated. It proved one thing to them. If the right man is endorsed, he will be supported by both the white and Negro race. The "Big Four" will not, although they hold the balance of power, carry more than 30,000 votes.

So again there is no Negro judge to sit on the bench in the municipal court but there are three Negro councilmen to help shape destiny of their people. Lawrence O. Payne of the 11th and LeRoy N. Bundy of the 17th were re-elected for another two-year term. In the 18th, Harold T. Gassaway defeated Septimus E. Craig. County Engineer John O. McWilliams, Democratic candidate for mayor, lost to the Mayor Harold N. Burton who was re-elected to guide Cleveland on to . . . . ?

Preceding his defeat, Mr. Minor said: "Although I was not elected, the unprecedented vote which I received is most gratifying. I am not discouraged, but on the contrary more hopeful than ever that the group will soon have representation on the bench. I am grateful to many thousands of fine citizens that supported me."

Political - 1937
Elections.

Ohio.

Three Negro Councilmen Elected

Guide

HAROLD E. GASSAWAY

—o—

HAROLD GASSAWAY, LEROY BUNDY and LAWRENCE PAYNE were the three Negroes elected to the city council Tuesday.

Cleveland is the only city in the United states that has three Negroes in its city council. Cleveland has warranted this representation for several years.

Guide
11-6-37
Cleveland, Ohio

PAYNE, BUNDY AND GASSAWAY ARE VICTORS

Guide
11-6-37
Cleveland, Ohio.

Minor Loses In Race For Judgeship; GOP On Way Back Up

CLEVELAND, Nov. 12 — (Special)—Mayor Harold H. Burton, who won the reputation of being the best mayor this city has had in many years, was swept into office for another two-year term by the largest majority ever given a mayoralty candidate in Cleveland. By a record vote the wards predominated by the Race voters—eleventh, twelfth and seventeenth—who went for Roosevelt last fall, the voters turned back into the Republican column almost to normal to what they had voted prior to the Roosevelt landslide.

All of this happened despite the reports that the Democrats, led by their candidate, John McWilliams, county engineer, allegedly resorted to all kinds of unfair means to win the election by circulating what they thought would be damaging literature to the cause of Republican success.

Norman Selby Minor, assistant county prosecutor, a Democrat, who was thought to be a sure winner in the candidacy for the short term of municipal judgeship, lost to Tom Ireland, white. A large number of Race voters who had planned to vote for Minor from the start of his campaign, took an about-face position when they learned that Minor was going about the Democratic McWilliams-for-mayor mass meeting lambasting Mayor Harold H. Burton and his administration, after he had made the promise to assume a neutral position in the campaign.

Formidable Bloc Wins

The formidable bloc, representatives of the eleventh, twelfth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth wards, won out with tremendous majorities. Lawrence O. Payne of the eleventh ward, won over Dr. V. O. Beck with a handsome 5,745 to 1,009 vote. In the twelfth, even the voters gave the ward to Roosevelt and Governor Davey last vote they showed their loyalty to Herman Finkle, a Jew who has represented the ward for many years giving him a 4,743 vote to John O. Holly's (Dem.) 1,170. In the seventeenth, despite the fact that Dr. Leroy N. Bundy was ill with bronchial pneumonia, his campaign went on just the same, managed by W. O. Walker, local editor. Bundy was re-elected with a two-to-one majority over Arthur Johnston, former mayor of Miles Heights village, the count being 3,721 to 1,908.

The bitterest fight was seemingly in the eighteenth ward. It was a duplication of the one two years ago when the late John E. Hubbard was elected over Atty. Harold Gassaway. This year the fight was between Gassaway and John F. Morning, district manager of an insurance company, and former president of the St. James forum and the Cleveland Board of Trade.

The fight was a hot one, the result being Gassaway won over Morning with a 4,940 to 2,428 vote. In the nineteenth ward, Council President Alexander L. DeMaioribus won in a brilliant fight with Tom Burke, deputy in the county clerk's office, despite the mud-slinging campaign of the Democrats.

Councilman Septimus Craig, an independent Democrat who was elected to fill the unexpired term of the late John E. Hubbard, lost out in the primary, finishing third.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Cleveland Elects Councilmen

The Call
11-19-37
Kansas City, Mo.

Three Negro councilmen were elected in Cleveland in the November 2 election. Lawrence O. Payne (left) was reelected to a fifth term to the city council from the eleventh ward with the largest majority of any councilman in the city. He received a vote of 5,745 to his opponent's 1,009. Councilman Payne is shown above as he scans election returns with his campaign manager Harvey B. Atkins.

CLEVELAND WITH FIVE NEGRO COUNCILMEN

Cleveland is the only city in the United States that has three Negro councilmen. Would you like to see her have five Negro councilmen? It can be done..

Cleveland Guide

11-13-37

Cleveland, Ohio

There are five wards in Cleveland that have a large Negro population, three of them already have a Negro councilman each The 12th ward that has elected a jewish councilman for many years has a colored population that is larger than the white population. The right candidate and the right campaign could elect a Negro in the 12th ward. About half the population in the 16th ward is colored. A political alignment with the white voters in that ward could elect a Negro to council from that ward.

Since the Negro gets little representation in other fields, he should make efforts to secure it here. Whoever the candidate might be for these wards, he must be a Republican, in order to win, because Cleveland Negroes have not yet learned to throw their solid vote to a Negro Democrat.

Cleveland's new councilman, Harold T. Gassaway and Mrs. Gassaway photographed shortly after they had voted last Tuesday. Attorney Gassaway was elected councilman from the eighteenth ward by a 2 to 1 majority. The newly elected councilman defeated the other Republican candidate, John F. Morning. Both Gassaway and Morning, who were Republican nominees, defeated the incumbent Septimus Craif, Democrat, who was appointed to the post after the death of the Republican councilman, John Hubbard. in September, 1936.

Call

11-1[illegible]-37

CLEVELAND NEGRO VOTERS LOSE IN JUDGESHIP ELECTION

DR. LEROY N. BUNDY

Cleveland physician who was re-elected to a fifth term in the Cleveland city council by a 2 to 1 majority. Dr. Bundy was reelected without making a single speech or appearing at any meeting during the campaign. He was stricken shortly after the primary and has been confined to his bed since.

CLEVELAND, Ohio. —(ANP)— Apparently, the most difficult job for Cleveland Negro voters to do is to elect a race man as judge.

Some eight years ago Atty. Alexander Martin, Sr., ran for the municipal judgeship. He lost. It was said that he lost because of his non-social activities and that he was not popular with the Negro voters.

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So again there is no Negro judge to sit on the bench in the municipal court but there are three Negro councilmen to help shape the destiny of their people. Lawrence O. Payne of the 11th and LeRoy N. Bundy of the 17th were re-elected for another two-year term. In the 18th, Harold T. Gassaway defeated Septimus E. Craig. County Engineer John O. McWilliams, Democratic candidate for mayor, lost to the Hayor Harold N. Burton who was re-elected to guide Cleveland on to . . .?

Informer

11-20-37

Houston, Tex.

Political - 1937
Elections.

Ohio

On Our Way

JOHN O. McWILLIAMS

The once solid, rock-ribbed Republican Wards have been dented. Gone is the whole-hearted and blind allegiance of Negro voters in Cleveland to the Republican Party. Negro voters have determined at last to use their common sense and to divide their votes — thus making both of the major parties BID for Negro support. For this, glory be!

This is the satisfactory information that has come out of the results of the mayorality primary — and for this THE EAGLE is supremely grateful.

Eagle 9-30-37
Cleveland, Ohio.

John O. McWilliams, whom THE EAGLE supported—waging an active campaign for his nomination for only TWO WEEKS—polled more than EIGHT THOUSAND NEGRO VOTES in the Eleventh, Twelfth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Wards, besides additional thousands in the Twenty-Fourth and Thirtieth Wards, in which a goodly portion of Negro votes are located.

Yet this is no time for rejoicing. Rather it is a time tor re-dedicating ourselves to the cause for which THE EAGLE is fighting—the cause of the election of John O. McWilliams as Cleveland's next mayor.

Here's The Tabulation:

	Burton	McWilliams
WARD 11	4,237	1,434
WARD 12	3,225	1,749
WARD 16	2,555	2,136
WARD 17	3,559	1,336
WARD 18	5,052	1.373
TOTALS	18,628	8,024

DEMS GAIN IN NEGRO WARDS STIRS GOSSIP

By CHAS. H. LOEB

Eagle 9-30-37 Cleveland, Ohio

From the viewpoint of the citizen who likes his primaries served sizzling hot, amply garnished with a generous mixture of torch-light parades, blaring horns, and vociferous speeches, the 1937 Cleveland mayorality primary was distinctly disappointing. The final result was a foregone conclusion. Political observers had predicted the ultimate victory of the incumbent mayor, and the successful nomination of John O. McWilliams many weeks before the almost apathetic campaign had fairly started.

With well-written, and faultlessly delivered speeches, lacking the usual fire and brimstone of past campaigns, the two candidates had gone methodically about the uninteresting business of oiling up the machine and sending it to the polls on primary day. That it was largely a machine vote is attested by the fact that less than fifty per cent of the total 395.000 eligibles went to the polls.

Ordinarily the powers that be at City Hall would be completely satisfied with the results, but with the final returns in, and 31,544 vote plurality to crow over, the administration is as "fidgetty" as a one-armed paper hanger with the hives ...and with good reason.

9-30-37

The Negro wards are "acting queer".

Trying To Probe Reason

Party leaders at City Hall are vainly trying to make themselves believe that the Finkle-Bundy-Payne combination represented the real reason behind the alarming decline in the normally expected Rpubelican votes in their respective wards. They are hopeful that the reason McWilliams made substantial gains in all the Negro wards is the result of a deliberate manipulation on the part of the three gentlemen to "scare" the mayor and pave the way to "talk turkey" for the fall campaign. But those forces which have been behind the relentless program of repudiation of Mayor Burton for his desertion of Negro leaders who made possible his nomination two years ago, and which forces glowing with satisfaction in the knowledge that the "queer acting" in the colored wards marks an entire change in the usual political psychology of the Negro voter in Cleveland, understand why the "Colored wards are acting queer."

Much of this new psychology is visible to the naked eye, as witness the unprecedented number of youthful workers at and near the polls, who intelligent and eager for a new day in politics in Cleveland, watched the voting places like hawks, pouncing upon the unwary voter, and delivering tersely and intelligently, a short sermon on political independence ...and winning converts!

Here's The Reason Why

Recall the amazement of political observers, a few years ago, when the usually mechanized Negro voter miraculously elected a Democratic Sheriff and a Republican mayor at one and the same time: follow through with me to the 1936 presidential election, and witness the astounding spectacle of the "Roaring Third" delivering a smashing majority for a Democratic president.

The rest of the way is then easily trod. Assisted by the betrayal of the incumbent administration, whose "on the fence" policy of ignoring certain Negro leaders when they were engaged in a fight within their wards, and aided and abetted by the numerous worthwhile appointments that were outgrowths of Democratic victories, the Negro voter has arrived at almost absolute independence of action with reference to both national and local politics.

The deflection of Republican votes during this primary election resulted from a desertion from boss rule rather than the application of it, and no one is more cognizant of it than Herman H. Finkle, whose uninterrupted reign is now challenged by the spectacle of more than one thousand Democratic votes for Councilman being cast in his ward.... and that during one of the quietest campaigns in the history of Cleveland politics; or of Dr. Leroy N. Bundy, who, practically repudiated by Mayor Burton, has been so busily engaged in his own, ward, saving his Councilmanic seat, that there has been neither time nor inclination to supress the vote within his ward. Both these men realize that a quietly working, alert, intelligent force is at work in their Wards, and in all the Wards where Negroes hold the balance of power, preaching the doctrine of voting for the men rather than the Party label.

So What of Election?

The smug satisfaction that permeated City Hall last election when those close to the new mayor observed that "he would have won without a single Negro vote," is strangely absent to-day, with the ever-present danger that the same vote that secured his nomination for a first term, may result in his defeat for a second term.

Yes, sir, the Colored wards are "acting queer", and there's not only a Colored gentlemen in Cleveland's political woodpile, but he's actually "sawing wood!"

Winners

Eagle 9-30-37
Cleveland, Ohio

LAWRENCE O. PAYNE

Eleventh Ward

Payne	4,654
Beck	517
Granger	301
Wano	246

Eagle 9-30-37

LEROY N. BUNDY

Bundy	3,106
Johnston	884
McAllister	686
McGhee	403

Eagle 9-30-37

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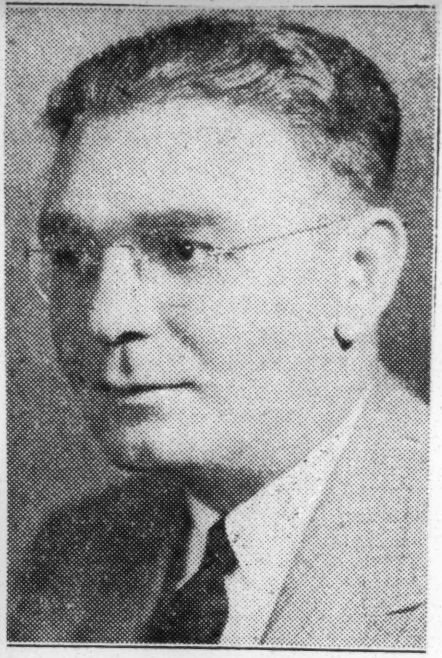
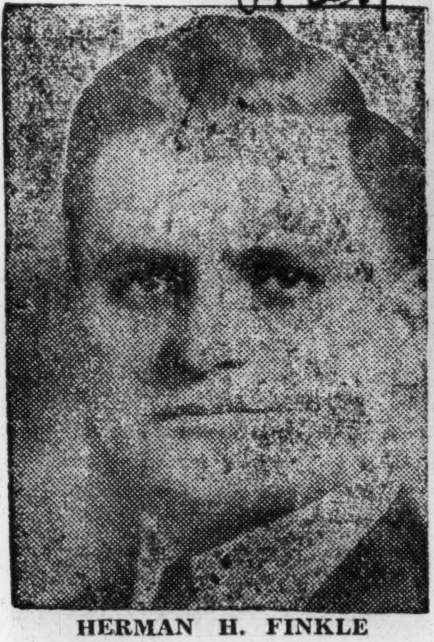


A. L. DeMAIORIBUS

DeMaioribus	3,542
Burke	1,223
Davis	1,082
Burton	406



HERMAN H. FINKLE

Finkle	4,056
Holly	1,000
Cobbs	328

HAROLD T. GASSAWAY

Gassaway	3,500
Morning	1,455
Craig	1,020
Barrett	352

ALLIED RACE DEMOCRATS TO BACK CHOICES

Eagle
10-15-37
Cleveland Ohio

AKRON.—Judge Charles B. Kelly, candidate to succeed himself as Judge of the Municipal Court for the short term has brought distinction and honor to that court. Since he took the bench, the Municipal Court, where petty offenses are prosecuted, has been known as the "poor man's Court."

It is necessary that the Negroes support the candidate for public office who renders impartial decisions in cases involving white and colored litigants. During the past few years that Judge Kelly has graced the bench he has rendered impartial decisions and has merited more than ordinary commendation.

Negro lawyers who have practiced in Judge Kelly's court maintain that they have been treated with fairness and courtesy at all times and in the light of these testimonials he is entitled to be reelected as Judge of Municipal Court.

WATCH WORD AND GOSSIP

AKRON.—What is the rumor about Leonard Forman, proprietor of the Green Turtle Hotel, opening his new night club at the 'Patterson For Mayor' club's headquarters, 2nd floor at 25 North Howard St.

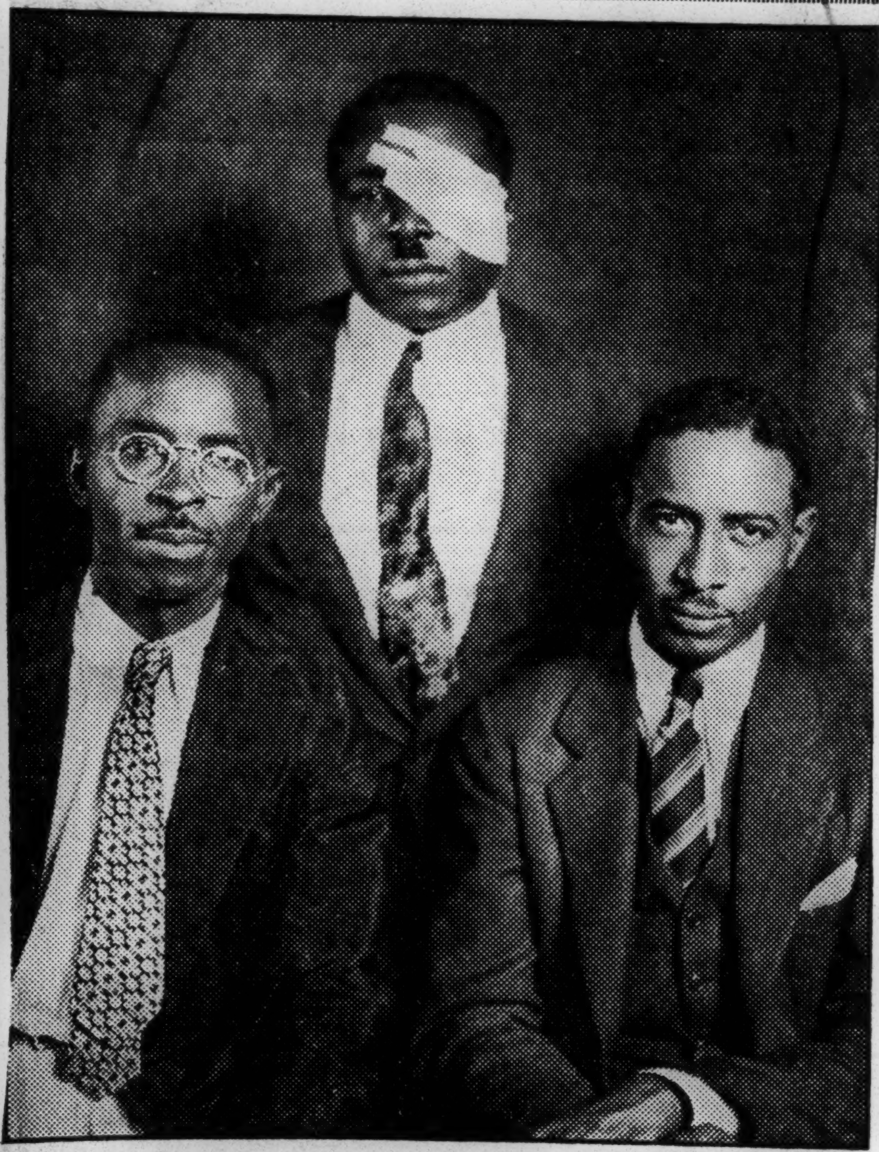
The club will be known as the Foreign Veteran's Club.

The Eagle wishes him success!

Political — 1937
Elections.

Ohio.

The Ghost Returns



FOR the sake of reminding Negro voters of some political history of the past two years, we are presenting herewith a group picture of three men. You will note that the eye of one of these men is bandaged—and that the other two look a bit upset.

Eagle
9-17-37

Now, there is a story connected with this picture, and in order that there may be no misunderstanding as to the reason for publishing this picture at this time, we will say plainly that it has to do with the present mayorality election.

Cleveland, Ohio.

* * *

Two years ago, the three men pictured here were leaders in the primary organization of Negroes which made the nomination of Mayor Harold H. Burton possible. These three men, with hundreds of others, worked night and day to put over Mr. Burton's nomination. For arrayed against them were all the Negro political bosses in all the Negro wards who were determined to stop Burton at any cost.

All three of these men received death threats several times over the telephone. But it fell to the lot of the young man in the center, whose eye is bandaged, and who was leader of all the Burton forces in the Negro wards, to be beaten up by political ruffians because of his efforts in Burton's behalf.

This picture was used two years ago by the Burton Campaign Committee in connection with their political publicity. The article with which it was used lauded the courage of these three men in supporting the Burton cause in the face of grave personal danger—and called upon the police authorities to give them protection. That was **before** Burton was elected.

Nominated by a narrow margin over Harry L. Davis, solely by reason of the votes secured for him by his Negro primary organization, it was possible afterwards for Mr. Burton to be elected mayor by the 40,000 majority over which the "cocks" of the vested interests crowed so lustily.

If Mr. Burton had not been nominated, there could have been no crowing over his subsequent election victory, which was so big that the "vested interests" took real joy in pointing out that he would have been elected mayor even if every Negro in Cleveland had voted against him!

These anti-Negro interests expediently forgot, however, in their rejoicing that it was the Negro vote which in the first place had put Burton in the election race.

* * *

But, let us go on with our story:

What happened to these three men after Burton's election?

One of them was given a little job which pays him a little more than a hundred dollars a month, while a resident of Lakewood, who could neither work nor vote for Burton, was given a position paying $6,500.00 per year. Another of these men was given a part-time job which employs him for about twelve days a month, while another "big shot" from the Heights was given another $6,500.00 a year position.

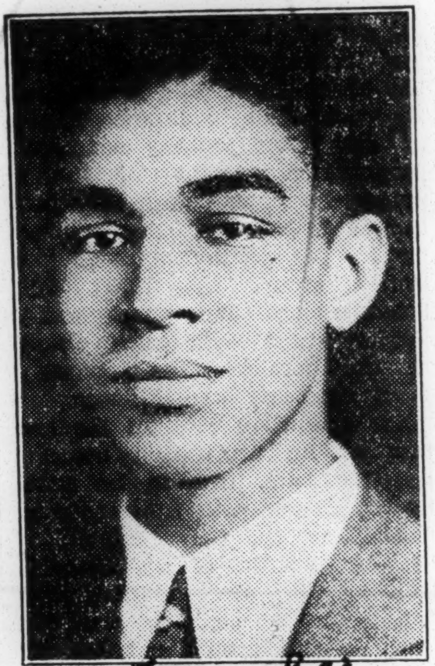
The other man in the picture, whose eye is bandaged, a lawyer by profession and a mighty good one, was left on the sidewalk—after he had flatly refused to accept a little job that was far beneath his ability. And he is still on the sidewalk in so far as Mayor Burton is concerned.

Is there any moral in this story for Negro Voters? If there is they will cast their votes for the only candidate who has a chance to defeat Burton.

That candidate is John O. McWilliams.

9-17-37

In Race



Eagle

JOHN A. COBBS

9-10-37

Widely known as a forceful orator and a keenly aggressive young man, John A. Cobbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cobbs, of E. 85th St., is a councilmanic candidate in the Twelfth Ward race. Cobbs is said to be waging a "door-bell-ringing" campaign.

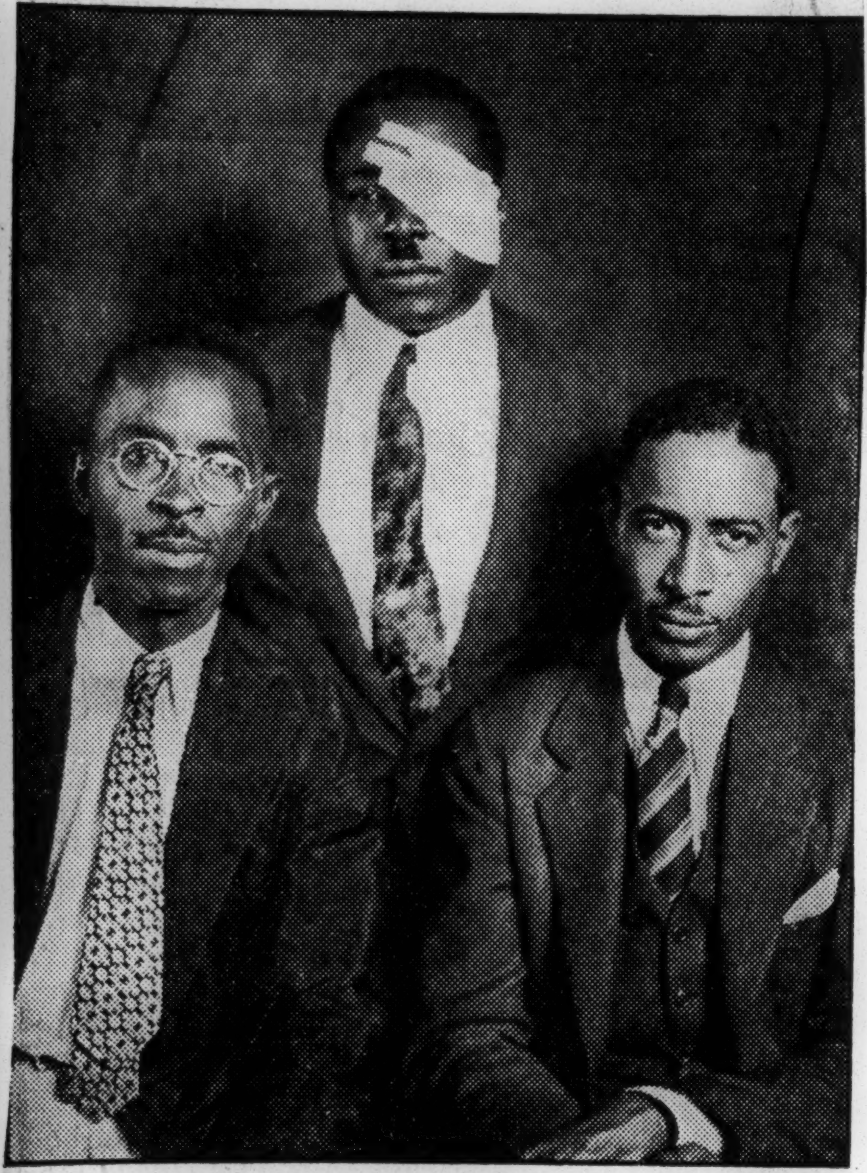
Cleveland, Ohio.

Political — 1937

Ohio.

Elections.

The Ghost Returns



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Eagle 9-17-37

Cleveland Ohio.

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Eagle

Cleveland 9-17-37 Ohio

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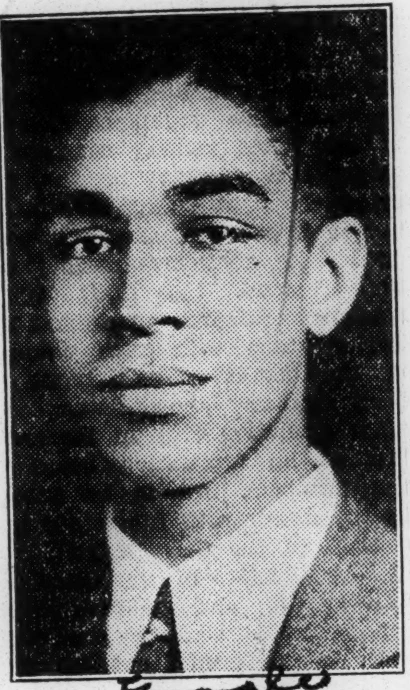

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Cleveland Ohio

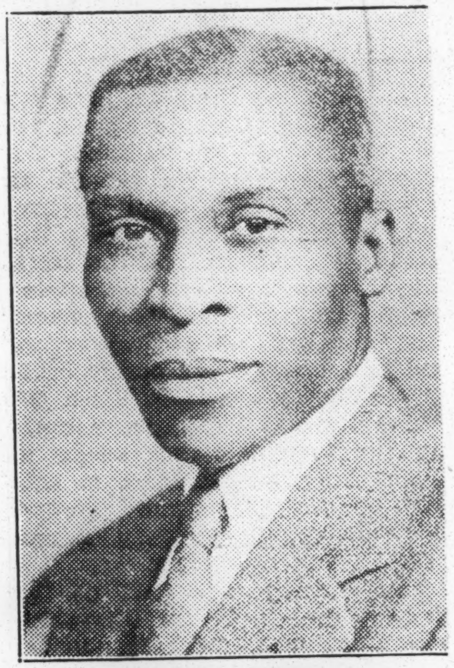
Popular Candidate

SAMUEL C. McCALLISTER

Eagle
9-10-37
Cleveland, Ohio

SUAVE, friendly and deservedly popular, S. C. McCallister, 2291 E. 55th St., Democratic candidate for Council from the Seventeenth Ward, put one over, when he landed the unanimous endorsement of the Ward's Democratic precinct committeemen. "Mac" as his friends call him, is an officer of the Cuyahoga County Negro Democratic League and State Organizer of the Ohio League of Democratic clubs.

He's Off



SEPTIMUS E. CRAIG

Eagle
9-10-37
Cleveland Ohio

A BIG MASS MEETING Thursday night at the East End Community Center, 84th and Cedar Ave., officially opened the campaign of Councilman Craig for re-election to City Council. George Washington is Chairman of Craig's Campaign Committee.

Image of Larry Payne Smiles From Windows Throughout 11th Ward

Eagle
9-17-37
Cleveland Ohio

Riding through the streets of Cleveland's Eleventh Ward this week one might easily be led to believe that Lawrence O. Payne is either running for president, or is about to be proclaimed a sort of Mahatma Ghandi! For one's eyes almost grow tired looking at pictures of the Ward's popular councilman, not only hanging in the windows of innumerable homes, but in every possible vantage point in stores or anywhere else that the councilman's supporters imagine it is necessary to place a picture to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that the Ward's residents want Payne to return to City Council.

It is only once in a great while that such united political opinion sweeps a City Ward. But when it comes to any Negro Ward, it is nothing short of a phenomonen.

Unite Behind Payne

Voters of the ward are as far apart as the poles in their choice for mayor, judge or anything else. Straw votes will indicate that almost every candidate for either of these important offices have their supporters in this Ward, where the residents vote hard and regularly. That's what straw vote polls are intended to show. But who would waste the time to take a straw vote on Payne's popularity in the Ward?....'Tisn't necessary. For, somehow, Larry Payne has woven himself into the warp and woof of his constituents in such a way that it is hard to get them apart in political viewpoint, be they Republican or what not. It's Payne wherever you go in the twenty-two precincts.

Why is Payne Popular?

When one looks beneath the surface for the reasons for this popularity, it is necessary to study Payne and his clever political actions to get at the crux of the situation. For Larry Payne is a political psychologist of parts.

If you want to accept this statement with a grain of salt, you may suit yourself. But if you want to be rational and keep your mind open on the subject, then witness as proof the fact that today Larry Payne, Jane E. Hunter, and Lethia C. Fleming are in a political coalition in the Eleventh Ward politics!

Figure out how that came about and decide for yourself what sort of political sagacity "Larry" Payne possesses!

Polls Bigger Vote Each Time

Elected to the Council eight years ago, after a long and successful stretch in the Police Prosecutor's office, Payne has gone far afield in political power and prestige. Each election since that time he has piled up a larger total of votes. And those in the know declare that this time "Larry" Payne will set a record for all time in the number of votes he will poll on Election Day.

So the Eleventh Ward's chorus today is: "Cleveland needs Our 'Larry" Payne."

Political – 1937
Elections.

Ohio.

J. McWILLIAMS STATES ISSUES BEFORE LEAGUE

Eagle
10-22-37
Cleveland, Ohio

Eagle
10-22-37
Cleveland, Ohio

At a recent meeting of the Citizens League, and with Mayor Harold H. Burton on the same platform, John O. McWilliams, democratic nominee for Mayor, outlined his program, sharply criticized the administration of Mayor Burton, and in forthright manner explained to the critical league members why he should be elected mayor of Cleveland.

This speech, one of the finest of the campaign, clearly states the issues of the campaign, and because of its clarity and sincerity it is presented to our readers in full:

Mr. Chairman, honored guests, members of the Citizens League. It is a pleasure to be with you on this your 40th annual meeting and to address you on the problems of Cleveland. I have been to your organization as a candidate on previous occasions and I am honored that you saw fit to mark me as preferred in every election that I appeared as a candidate. I held your indorsement in such high regard that I used it together with the indorsements of the Cleveland Plain Dealer and The Cleveland Press in my campaign publicity for County Engineer.

I have always been fully confident when presenting my candidacy for your consideration that it would be judged on its merit, and the decision reached would be the honest convictions of the membership based on the pertinent facts of the case.

I appear before you today secure in the knowledge that my candidacy will be well received and fairly considered. Your able director, Mr. Mayo Fesler, informed me that the topic of this address was to be—"Why I Should Be Elected Mayor of Cleveland."

Such a topic is always somewhat embarassing. The writer may hide behind the editorial we, but the candidate for office must stress the pronoun "I". Much more preferable would be an impersonal discussion of the problem of Cleveland, but since I am involved in the subject I must discuss myself as an individual as well as in relation to civic issues.

As a candidate for the office of Mayor, I represent not so much myself as a person, but rather more as an opportunity for the people of Cleveland to say what they desire from their municipal government. If they agree with my philosophy of government and want the type of service I offer, they can select me as their mayor. If not they can select my opponent.

I have submitted for the consideration of the declaration of government policy and my stand on the vital issues of this campaign. I have presented a constructive program for the development of Cleveland and the correction of many civic ills which afflict its people.

In these public statements which have been available to you since September 15th, before the primary campaign began, I presented my views on ten major problems which confront the city of Cleveland today. They are: Transportation, Gas Rates, The Municipal Light Plant, Finance, Public Safety, Civil Service, Relief, Labor, The Lake Front, and Recreational Facilities. It will not be possible in the time available to discuss with you all of these issues. During the campaign I hope to discuss all of them to your entire satisfaction. Today I must confine my attention to a relatively limited number.

If you will permit a moment of digression from the issues, I would like to present for your consideration one phase of my candidacy which should be of particular interest to your organization. It is customary for you to inquire into the education, experience, and training of the candidate which would indicate his qualifications for the office he seeks.

Has it ever occurred to you that the problems of municipal government are predominantly engineering in character? The building, repairing, and cleaning of streets and sidewalks; the construction and maintenance of bridges; the supervision of street cars and busses; the furnishing and distribution of municipal light and power; the construction and maintenance of sewers and sewage disposal plants; the problem of water supply; parks and boulevards; building construction and supervision; traffic regulation and control; city planning and zoning. These and many other duties are strictly engineering in character. In fact, when you have completely covered the field of municipal service you find very little which is not engineering. This fact has been almost universally recognized by cities which have adopted the city manager form of government. In almost every case the city manager is an engineer.

As to my own qualifications, I am an engineer. I am licensed to practice my profession by the State of Ohio. Since its foramtion I have served as a member of the Engineering Registration Board of Ohio. I hold membership and office in many engineering organizations. For seven years I have served the people of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County in an executive capacity dealing with the transportation problems of the community. I have built many of our principal highways and bridges.

During this period my record as a public has been an open book. The integrity, efficiency, and courtesy of my administration has not been, will not be, and cannot be questioned. Last year when I presented my record to your committee on candidates, I stated that "the present staff of the County Engineer's Office contains 61 registered professional engineers, and that almost without exception the department heads and responsible officers are college graduates with ample engineering experience." I also stated that "the present staff of my office is composed of the highest type of personnel the office has every had." I repeat those statements now and am proud to say that the preference given me by the Citizens League in my campaign for re-election last fall is ample proof of their truth.

I do not have to tell you of my accomplishments as County Engineer. They speak for themselves. You ride over them every day, and you will continue to ride over them for many years in the future. You can't hide roads and bridges and you can't deny them or explain them away.

It is a popular impression that our laws are made by politicians, but the laws of engineering are immune to political consideration The fact that you are a good Democrat or good Republican and control so many votes in a certain ward will not make a bridge stand up. It is either designed and built right or it falls down. The most powerful political influence has never been known to make water run up hill.

I submit that my professional training and engineering experience together with my established record in dealing with major engineering problems are ample qualifications for an office whose duties are largely engineering in character.

Returning now to the issues, the present administration has been in office nearly two years and is called upon to present to the people an accounting of its stewardship. If you are so gullible as to believe all that you read in the Cleveland newspapers about the present administration, you will think that you are living in Utopia, but if you are endowed with the average amount of horse sense, you will realize that it is still a Cleveland, and I might say very still.

Actually, Cleveland is far from Utopia. Its streets are scarcely safe for automobiles or pedestrians, its pavements are full of holes, its bridges dilapidated and dangerous. Its street car service is expensive and unsatisfactory, its gas rates are exorbitantly high its municipal light plant is loaded to capacity, and the city itself must buy private power for some of its own operations. The bathing beaches are polluted with sewage the lakefront is undeveloped, and after 100 years of talk, the Cuyahoga River is still crooked and our great steel industry is throttled by its difficult access. In spite of the alleged perfection of the safety department, the streets are full of crime. Murder, vandalism, rape and robbery go on unabated and ever increasingly. Deaths from traffic accidents are increasing year by year. There havce been so many bank robberies in Cleveland that the Federal Government has had to send operatives into Cleveland to protect the Federal Deposit insurance funds against excessive losses.

In fairness to my opponent, it must be said that some of these conditions existed before he took office, but what has he done about it during his term of office. The answer is NOTHING in capital letters. In spite of the fact that he has had and has spent $6,000,000 more of the taxpayers' money than any mayor in the history of Cleveland, his record is so devoid of accomplishment that he has resorted to all manner of fantastic claims that are not substantiated by official records. In fact, you might properly wonder if my Republican opponent had not fallen under the spell of Dr. Coue Do you remember the doctor, the great exponent of auto-suggestion? His theory was that all you had to do was to say to yourself over and over again, "Every day in every way I'm feeling better and better" until you finally kidded yourself into believing it. The present mayor seems to have tried it on Cleveland until he believes it himself. "Every day in every way Cleveland is getting better and better."

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Political – 1937

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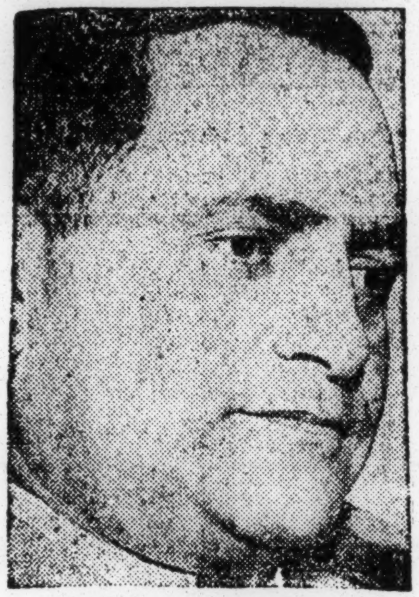
His own report of the City's pation in W. P. A. is a deliberate falsification of a statement on public finance. My opponent told you during the primary campaign that the city had spent $5,000,000 on W. P. A. projects during his administration. I charged that the City Record showed only $867,000 having been spent for this purpose. In a column signed by the mayor and published by the Cleveland Press, he gave a detailed summary of his alleged $5,000,000 expenditure and proved exactly what I had charged, that his claim was untrue. He did manage to pad the figure out to $2,000,000 by claiming, that money was spent out of other funds for W. P. A., although the City Record does not show that the money was spent for that purpose, but the other $3,000,000 was pure fiction. $1,500,000 of it was shown as the value of certain city equipment used on W. P. A. The figure is only an estimate and represents no cash outlay whatever on the part of the city. The other $1,500,000 was just plain hokum. It bore the lofty title of unliquidated commitments. Do you know what that means? Just this—you said you were going to spend the money, and you didn't spend it. Here is a man who tells you publicity that he has spent $5,000,000 of your money. When accused he admits that it is not true and at least three-fifths of his claim is fiction.

I know that the Citizens League are staunch supporters of the merit system in public office. My opponent pledged full observance of civil service law and the merit system when he took office. Let me cite you one example of how he made a hollow mockery out of the merit system. For the important position of streets commissioner which requires the services of a competent engineer, he selected a grocer whose only qualification was his ability to get votes in his ward. The mayor then tried to get the position exempted from civil service and went personally before the Commission to ask them to violate the law. When they rightfully refused and gave an examination, this politician stood last among eleven candidates. He then had to be removed. This was done by promoting him to acting service director where he is responsible for the expenditure of $5,000,000 per year and in charge of $50,000,000 worth of equipment.

The deceit, evasion, and complete lack of accomplishment on the part of the present administration clearly demands its repudiation at the polls. I feel that my training, experience, and record in public office have qualified me to serve you as mayor, and that my program offers constructive remedies for our civic ills. I invite your support in electing me as your next mayor and in working with me for the betterment of our city.

WINNERS IN CLEVELAND ELECTION

LAWRENCE O. PAYNE


HERMAN H. FINKLE

LEROY N. BUNDY

HAROLD T. GASSAWAY

A. L. DeMAIORIBUS

The formidable bloc, representatives of the eleventh, twelfth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth wards in Cleveland, who won out with tremendous majorities in voting which shifted slightly into Republican columns. Payne of the eleventh ward defeated Dr. V. O. Beck by more than 4,000 votes. Herman Finkle kept his leadership in the twelfth ward. Despite the illness of Dr. Leroy N. Bundy, his campaign went on to a victorious end. John E. Hubbard, in winning over John F. Morning, duplicated his bitter fight two years ago with the late John E. Hubbard. A brilliant campaign marked the victory of Alexander L. DeMaioribus, who maneuvered the appointment of the first member of the Race to the Ohio civil service commission. —Photos of Cleveland Eagle.

[illegible]

Cleveland Councilman Again Wins Position

11-13-37

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

CLEVELAND— (ANP)— In Tuesday's election which saw predominantly Negro wards vote the Republican ticket, Councilmen Lawrence O. Payne, and Dr. Leroy N. Bundy were reelected by heavy majorities, and Harold T. Gassaway, prominent local attorney, was elected to the city council for the first time from the 18th ward.

Norman S. Minor, candidate for the unexpired term on the municipal court bench, lost his race but polled the largest vote of any Negro who has sought that office. Harry E. Davis aspirant for the school board. also lost.

Loses Judgeship by 1443 Votes, Polls 64,000

Afro-American

Three Coucilmen Returned to Seats in Cleveland

11-20-39

CLEVELAND (ANP)—Although he polled more than 64,000 votes, Norman Selby Minor failed by 1443 votes to win the nomination for municipal judge.

Three councilmen, Lawrence O. Payne, Leroy N. Bunday, and Harold T. Gassaway, were elected from the eleventh, seventeenth and eighteenth districts, respectively.

Baltimore, Md.

Is County Prosecutor

Mr. Minor, for the past eight years, has been assistant county prosecutor and was endorsed by almost every civic and political organization in the city.

Voters here generally were elated over the outcome of the election. It proved to them that if the right man is endorsed he will be supported by both colored and white voters.

Political-1937
Elections.

Ohio

They Seek Judge in Cleveland

C. K. Gillespie **Judge Silbert** **Judge Scott** **N. S. Minor**

Judge Armond W. Scott of the D.C. Municipal Court was a guest speaker at a mass meeting in Cleveland, Monday, launching a drive for a colored judge there, sponsored by the Cleveland NAACP, of which Mr. Gillespie is president. While in the city, Judge Scott was a guest of Judge Samuel H. Silbert, white, in the common pleas court. Mr. Minor is county prosecutor.

(Cleveland Call-Post photo by Walker)

CINCINNATI SEEK SEATS FOR DR. R. E. BEAMON, RICHARD P. McCLAIN AS COUNCILMEN

By JAMES T. WHITNEY

East Tennessee News
Knoxville, Tenn.
7-8-37

CINCINNATI, O. —(ANP)—The City Charter Committee announced Wednesday its indorsement of Dr. R. E. Beamon, dentist, prominent in civic, welfare, and professional activities, as one of its candidates for Council in the November election. Dr. Beamon is the first Negro to receive Charter indorsement for Council.

Dr. Beamon is a graduate of Howard university, an organizer of the Ohio Dental Society, a board member of the Buckeye State Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Society; is president-elect of the National Dental Society; a former chairman of the Boys' Work Committee of the Ninth St. Y.M.C.A.; a director of the Shoemaker Health Center and of the Negro Community Chest; and a participant in the White House conference on child welfare during the Hoover administration; is a member of the executive committee of the Metropolitan Housing Authority; is a member of the American Legion, and recently was appointed a member of the hospitality committee for the tri-ennial convention of the Episcopal Church to be held here in October. He is 46 years old.

The Republican Committee has indorsed Councilman R. P. McClain for reelection to the City Council. McClain, who has been ill, has fully recovered and is back at his desk in the City Hall. He has made the city an excellent councilman. Mayor Russell Wilson, a member of the Charter Party has praised him very highly.

McClain is a graduate of Howard university, a physician, a member of the Y.M.C.A., and Recreation Council Committees, and has also served as a member of the Ohio State Legislature.

Fear Grips Cleveland Democrats In Councilmanic Aspirations

By LEON LEWIS

3-6-37

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 5—Including the several Race wards among those named as having no announced opposition to incumbent councilment, a local daily furnishes a background for the picture of political fear and inertia among Race Democratic leaders of Cleveland. In the face of political ambitions, demonstrated ability and general party affiliation, it seems that the assertion could be refuted.

A lengthy interview with one of the generally recognized Democratic moguls, and one who has shown favorable inclinations toward recognizing Race leadership if it is developed undisputably, reveals anonther phase of the local political situation.

It can be expressly noted that the powers that be are very anxious for Democrats to come to the front and face the issues after having chosen to be Democrats, and stop the assumption that despite recent Democratic victory, opposing Republican factions have a mortal clinch on the various Race wards of Cleveland. Not that Democrats who have claimed leadership have no ambition, or initiative to prove their claims, but that they lack the determination to fight for their claims.

In only one ward does there seem to be a definite stand for a Democratic contest for post election victories, and this is because the present councilman of that ward is a Democrat, not by reason of a test of vote but by chance and a series of circumstances. Councilman Craig of the 18th ward will undoubtedly be a candidate for reelection. It is doubtful that the Democrats will give him the support that could mean victory. For this reason, it is generally felt that some other Democrat will enter the field against him.

Living in that section are at least three of the party's best known Democrats, two of whom have been council candidates, and evidently desire to show power. These three are Dr. James A. Owen, John Cobbs, and Selby Minor, who has his eyes on a judicial career. Dr. Owen cannot possible have a logical excuse, if he expects to realize any political ambitions. For many years, he has been a respected Democrat, and today he still is. In the 18th ward, as in others, the precinct committeemen are becoming discouraged by the attitude of party leaders.

What is true of the 18th ward is likewise true in the 11th, 12th, 17th except that in these latter wards there seems to exist an assumption of absolute fear. There is little indication that Race Democrats will capitalize upon their November election gains. Not because there are no eligible leaders to contest Republican incumbents, but apparently from sheer fear of defeat.

NO RACE CANDIDATE LOOMS AS CONTENDER FOR COUNCIL SEAT

Cleveland Eagle
6-11-37

Cleveland Ohio

AKRON, O.—'No news is bad news'; it is sometime said. So far there has been no news of any colored aspirant to the City Council having circulated any petitions preparatory to filling next week. Statements coming from candidates in primaries of the past were to the effect that they did not believe it worth while. In as much, they claimed, in order to be elected it would be necessary for any one candidate to receive all of the colored votes as well as a great number from the white electors in Summit County. That would mean, of course that it would not be feasible for more than one to run for one of the council seats and that usually as councilman at large. Due to party affiliations heretofore the colored vote has never been solidly behind the colored candidate as would naturally be expected in a locality having such a comparatively small colored population as in this county. Therefore; even if the party machine afforded a reasonable amount of white votes, the colored votes being split, results invariably in defeat for the councilmanic candidate.

Clevelanders Rate Issues More Vital Than Candidates For City Election This Fall

Voters Want More Race Policemen and An All-Colored Fire Engine Station, Survey Shows.

Courier
7-10-37
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CLEVELAND, O., July 8—(By Clarence L. Simmons for ANP).—As the time approaches for the fall city election, and with many petitions circulating in the districts, the general opinion of Harlem voters centers around the issues and not the office-seekers.

For more than 10 years the Negro voters of this city have been fighting for recognition in their district. So far, there has been little shown. As the time draws near, Cleveland's Harlem is again asking why they haven't been granted their old promise of more Negro policemen and an all-colored fire engine station.

From all indications, those who seek office in our city government must give out statements of definite action along these lines to assure themselves of the Negro vote. From the rumor floating around in Harlem, they are now casting their lot with the party (with the man) who is interested mostly in their well-being.

Cleveland is the largest city in the State, with a population of approximately 80,000 Negroes, and about 45,000 colored registered voters in the four wards, 11, 12, 17 and 18. During the last election most of these wards voted Democratic.

On almost every corner voters can be heard arguing the issues: "What we want," they say, "is a Negro fire engine station established in our district. We would also like to have more colored policemen in this district."

On the night of the Louis-Braddock championship bout there were six squads of policemen stationed in the heart of Harlem, East 55th and Central, and there wasn't one Negro uniformed patrolman among them. Traveling the route on Cedar from East 55th to East 105th there were but two Negro "plainclothes" officers.

While more than 45,000 Negroes are voters in Cuyahoga county, there are but nine colored men on the force, with one being added several weeks ago. Columbus, a much smaller city, has a colored fire engine station with its own captain, and there are more Negro uniformed police officers than in Cleveland. Harlem is also upset over the act of the safety director, who recently made promotions in the police department, for not naming one colored officer. There are several Negro officers who, by their deeds of bravery, are entitled to higher ranks, but are just plainclothes policemen.

These are the things the Harlem Negro voters are discussing as the time draws near for the election.

THE COMING ELECTION

Eagle
7-9-37
Cleveland Ohio

NOW that sharp lines in the mayoralty situation are drawn and two candidates face the electorate — each of whom is supported by a sizable organization, the times seems highly propitious to THE EAGLE for the Negro voter to take stock of the situation and decide what he will ask in exchange for his support in this election. Especially is this election the time because with the reported blessing of the two major organizations the term for mayor may be extended to four years by an amendment to be submitted to the voters at the primary in September.

So let us commence.

We should have Negro firemen.
We should have more Negro policeman.
We should have a Police captain or two.
We should have a Commissioner in either the Streets or the Water Department.
We should have more and better jobs than we now have.

The ballot is the Negro's only weapon by which he can gain for his Race a more adequate share in the "spoils" of politics and he should learn to barter just as vigorously and as closely as any other racial or national group in Cleveland. And that's that!

Political-1937

Elections.

Oklahoma

Let's Elevate Judge R. L. Williams

Senator Borah in a recent United States Senate speech, said he believed that the liberties of the American people could be preserved only in proportion as we preserved free speech and a free press. The senator made this statement as a prelude to a discussion of the supreme court and the program of enlargement as proposed by President Roosevelt.

Black Dispatch

It is in this spirit that we approach the subject of the contemplated elevation of Judge R. L. Williams of the federal court, eastern district of Oklahoma, to the circuit court of appeals. In recent weeks our office has been filled with telegrams, letters and individuals who in almost every instance suggest that we protest the elevation of Judge Williams to the circuit court, and a large number of protests have been sent to Washington.

We agree with all who have come to our office that Judge Williams is peculiarly unfitted for this advancement. Our experience with this jurist in eastern Oklahoma causes us to feel that his attitude towards Negro citizenship is entirely out of step with the times and is a positive detriment to thousands of black citizens who seek ballot rights in the eastern federal judicial area.

Judge Williams was recently cited by the very court to which he seeks elevation to show cause why he is dilatory in perfecting the records in the suffrage cases arising in Wagoner county, and which have been by various subterfuges hanging fire in court since his elevation to the federal judiciary.

2-13-37

It should be recalled that Judge Williams was governor of Oklahoma when the famous Grandfather Clause, then on the statute books of this state, was invalidated by the U. S. supreme court. It was the then Governor R. L. Williams who called the legislature into extraordinary session, and that legislature met in the old India Temple biulding at Second and Broadway, Oklahoma City, where and when the present registration law was enacted.

Governor Williams indicated in his call for the convening of the legislature that he wanted the solons to enact laws against usury and gambling. Wise ones, however, knew that Governor Williams' intention was to have such suffrage regulations made as to maintain in effect the old outmoded and unconstitutional Grandfather Clause. Most of the time of the session was given to the passage of the present registration law and this writer at that time wrote two editorials entitled "Gambling" and "Usury," circularizing that special session with them, point- out the hypocrisy and inconsistency behind the call that had been made by Governor Williams. We recall that we at that time received a letter from the Governor in which he said, "You remind me of a fellow with a chip on his shoulder walking around trying to get someone to knock it off."

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Since those days Oklahoma has grown in liberality and fairness towards its Negro citizenry. About the only place in this state where Negroes do not have the right to vote is in the eastern federal district of Oklahoma. This writer has campaigned all over Wagoner county, spending his time and money for several years, endeavoring to assist in getting ballot rights for Wagoner county Negroes. Attorneys representing the Negro citizens have sought to disqualify Judge Williams in such cases, but he has objected.

We are stating the case as we understand it against Judge Williams fully, so that no one will misunderstand us when we say that we believe he is unfitted for advancement to a higher post. But we are in public life not so much to persecute and hound some individual as we are to always drive an advantageous bargain for black folk.

Suppose Judge Williams is not elevated to the circuit court of appeals. In that event he will be privileged to remain in his present position for perhaps the next ten or fifteen years. During this period it is not logical to assume that he will change his idea and notions regarding ballot rights for Negroes.

Suppose Judge Williams is elevated to the circuit court of appeals. In that event another and a younger judge, who is not manacled by the narrow-guaged commitments of another generation, will be at the helm and the Negroes who reside in the eastern federal district will immediately be free.

On the other hand as circuit court member, Judge Williams will not be the sole abiter of questions coming before the court, as he is today. He will sit in banc and when he writes opinions they will be passed upon by a majority of the members of that body, who in the passing years have shown a willingness to deal squarely with questions involving the Negro's rights.

Keep in mind also that it is agreed that Judge Williams if elevated, will retire in the next 24 months.

As we see it, it is utterly foolish on the part of Negroes to argue against Judge Williams' elevation, when we measure this protest with the yardstick which determines what we get out of it. Sure we have the right to protest, but we are of the opinion that a judicial shove upstairs in this case will do Negroes more good than a shove down. If Judge Williams remains in his present position his tenure is indefinite. Upstairs, where he now looks, his time for retirement is set. The Black Dispatch does not intend to file a protest against this contemplated advancement. In fact, we approve it, and we add, many Negroes in the eastern district presided over by Judge Williams, are praying for his elevation for the sensible reasons stated here. The time has come here in America for the Negro to kick intelligently. There's no "pay dirt" in the protests being sent to Washington opposing the ambitions of Judge Robert L. Williams.

Negroes Vote in School Election in Okmulgee

Call

4-16-37

Kansas City, Mo.

OKMULGEE, Okla.—Negroes voted in the school board election here Tuesday, April 6, as a result of a fight which began in 1933.

The fight was begun anew in February by the Interdenominational Alliance which sent a committee to the Chamber of Commerce.

The case was financed by the Civic League of Okmulgee of which R. B. Taylor is president. The Rev. J. S. Sykes is president of the Ministerial Alliance.

Attorney Evans of Okmulgee, Chandler of Muskogee, Merriweathers of Okmulgee and Stevens of Okmulgee handled the case.

Oklahoma Judge Forces Election Board To Litt Ban On Race In School Vote

Plaindealer 4-16-37

ARDMORE, Okla.—Despite a ruling of Mac Q. Williamson, attorney general, that Negroes could not vote in school elections in districts where the majority of the voters were white, Negroes voted last week to elect members of the school board in Independent School District No. 19, Carter county.

ROSCOE DUNJEE

Kansas City Kansas

The attorney general's opinion under date of March, 1935, holds that the schools for Negroes are maintained out of separate funds than those in independent districts; therefore, Negroes are not privileged to vote in school elections.

Following taking the matter up with Editor Roscoe Dunjee, president of the Oklahoma Conference of Branches of the NAACP, the Community club, with S. M. Lackey, president and J. S. Young as secretary, decided on mandamus proceedings.

District Judge J. I. Goings on the 2nd day of April issued a preemptory writ requiring the election board to issue ballots and allow all qualified Negro electors to vote in the school election.

L. H. Harris, Negro counsel, was chief attorney for the Community club, and was assisted by Attys. Norvel Shilling and Stephen A. George, white.

Political-1937
Elections.

Pennsylvania

F-L-A-S-H

PHILADELPHIA — At a called meeting of more than one hundred members of the Negro Democratic Committeemen's Organization in the Catherine Street Y.W.C.A., Tuesday, Austin Norris was recommended to the city committee to be judge of the proposed small claims court.

Sixty-nine votes were cast for Norris, nine for John Francis Williams, six for Robert N. C. Nix, and one for Fitzhugh Styles, all attorneys.

Democrats Ask Naming of a Colored Judge

Afro-American

Williams, Nix, and Norris Recommended for New Court Job.

4-3-37

MEETING CLOSES IN HEATED ROW

Baltimore Md.

Party Committeemen Consider Candidates.

PHILADELPHIA—Democratic leaders will urge Governor Earle to place on his "must" list the appointment of a colored man as one of the judges of the proposed new Small Claims Court and a colored member on the Civil Service Commission Board, it was learned last week.

The Small Claims Court and a Family Court are provided for in a bill before the State Legislature to supplant the Municipal Court.

John Francis Williams, Robert N. C. Nix, and J. Austin Norris are among those who have been suggested for recommendation to the Governor.

Meeting Ends in Turmoil

The fight reached fever heat, Thursday, when a meeting of Democratic committeemen from all over the city, gathered for the purpose of endorsing one or more candidates, was abruptly ended in turmoil and confusion without anything definite being accomplished,

It was said that Norris, one of the aspirants, had been made an official committeeman the night before, with the rumored intentions of better directing his co-workers during the meeting. He did succeed, however, in taking an active part in the proceedings and on one occasion was the center of a disturbance that lasted for more than thirty minutes.

It was charged that the names of Theodore Spaulding and Fitzhugh Styles, North Philly lawyers, were cast into the ring with the hope of confusing the voting committeemen and splitting the vote. These two names were quickly brushed aside, however.

A legislative committee began an investigation of the Municipal Court Monday with the purpose of replacing it with a Family Court of five judges and a Small Claims Court of three judges.

Plan New Civil Service Body

Meanwhile, plans are under way for the scrapping of the present Republican Civil Service Commission and replacing it with one of five men selected from both major parties. This plan has reputedly met with the approval of Mayor S. Davis Wilson and John B. Kelly, Democratic city chairman.

Rumors that a colored man is to sit on the proposed new commission have not as yet been verified.

In any event, as matters now stand, colored Philadelphia is believed in for a fair representation in the higher job brackets.

Turn Heat on White Chiefs

PHILADELPHIA—Called together to name a prospective colored judge for the proposed small claims court, 187 colored Democratic committeemen failed to reach an agreement before some one jerked a fuse and threw their spirited meeting at the Christian Street YMCA into darkness, Thursday night.

Afro-American

The climax did not come, however, before the committee had expressed a determination to have political leadership come from their own group rather than individuals selected by white leaders.

4-3-37

Shepard Opposed

Baltimore Md.

It came after the committeemen had indicated definite opposition to a small group of legislators led by the Rev. Marshall Shepard and at a time 1:30 a.m., when efforts were made to have a roll call.

The maximum strength the Shepard-E. T. Allmond forces could muster was approximately twenty-five votes. This was shown by four votes as follows:

One to have a secret ballot; one to have three candidates indorsed by the organization rather than one, and two motions for adjournment presumably to prevent the selection of a choice by the committeemen.

All supported by the Shepard-Allmond forces were beaten by a standing vote of 160 to 20.

After these votes, the Shepard followers, through parliamentary strategy, attempted to prevent the roll call. What their meneuvering sought to do was accomplished when someone took out a fuse and extinguished the lights in the meeting room.

Question Legislators

When the Rev. Mr. Shepard had taken the floor previously, committeemen hooted him. They challenged the fact that the five legislators, only two of whom are committemen, would assume to speak for the colored people in selecting a judge.

It is generally predicted that if John B. Kelly, white, slights the colored committeemen by heeding any selection made by the legislators, he will cause a split among the voters in the city, probably affecting the Rev. Mr. Shepard's political ascendency.

The women's organization of 1,000 members is reputedly lined up with the committeemen in their fight to overthrow the choice of the legislators.

FIRST NEGRO APPOINTED AT THE BARRACKS

Call

Willard Johnson Assigned To Government Post In St. Louis

5-7-37

ST. LOUIS. — (Special) The "ice was broken" for Negro men of medicine at Jefferson Barracks last week when Willard Johnson, 3667 Windsor place, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Johnson of Leavenworth, Kas., was appointed to the medical faculty at the veteran's hospital.

Ranking first in a civil service examination for medical positions at government institutions in August 1934, Johnson received the appointment only after authorities at Washington D. C., had repeatedly instructed officials at Jefferson Barracks that Johnson must be appointed, since he ranked first out of the long list of medical students taking the examination.

Kansas City, Mo.

Johnson's work at the hospital is in the clinical, X-ray and routine laboratories, X-ray developing and post examinations.

A Brilliant Student

Known as a brilliant student, Johnson was graduated with honors in 1925 from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, where he majored in medicine.

Upon graduation he was appointed to teach bio-chemistry, bacteriology and health subjects at Rust college, Holly Springs, Miss. The field agent for the General Education Board was so impressed with his work at Rust as to award him a scholarship to the University of Chicago where he received his master's degree in the field of bacteriology, parasitology and laboratory methods in 1928.

After another year at Rust college, Johnson became head of the biology department at the Tennessee A. and I. state college at Nashville.

In 1933 Johnson gave up the teaching profession and came to St. Louis and established a private technician's biological laboratory at the Peoples hospital. The laboratory was equipped and designed to aid physicians in scientifically diagnosing and treating patients in accordance with modern methods of medical practice.

Used By Specialists

The same year the facilities of the laboratory and Johnson were called upon to aid government medical specialties from Washington to combat the spread of the dreaded sleeping sickness.

The first Negro to received such an appointment at the institution, Johnson said his position may become significant in that it may open the door for the appointment of other qualified Negroes.

A large number of Negro veterans are housed at the hospital.

Johnson was married to Miss Dorothy Stovall, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. James Stovall of Humboldt, Kas., in 1929. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of two boys and 5-months-old twin girls.

RAINEY NOMINATED FOR MAGISTRATE

Afro-American

9-18-37

Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA— State Athletic Commissioner Joseph H. Rainey was nominated for magistrate on the Democratic ticket in the primary election, held here Tuesday.

Jos. H. Rainey

Now that he has won the nomination, he expects to be victorious at the November elections, Mr. Rainey said after his victory had been announced

HENRY TO RUN FOR CONGRESS FROM PHILLY

Afro-American

10-23-37

Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—A statement that he will be a candidate for the United States House of Representatives from the Second District in the election of November, 1938 was made by Magistrate Edward Henry during a speech at a testimonial banquet at the O. V. Catto Elks' Lodge.

The announcement was made during the reception honoring Arthur W. Carpenter, founder of the Motor Vehicle Service Association, composed of postal employees. The honoree was presented a Colt revolver by William F. Hall, president of the association.

Afro-American

Magistrate Henry, the principal speaker, explained that his action to become a candidate was based on requests from scores of organizations and individuals.

10-23-37

Mr. Carpenter founded the association among the workers in the motor service of the postal department [illegible] 1922 while president, the organization was chartered and later became affiliated with the Postal Workers' Alliance. He has been a Federal employee for twenty-four years.

Baltimore, Md.

Receives Brief Case

In behalf of the 150 members of the association, Magistrate Henry was presented a brief case. He pledged to carry it when he was sworn should he be elected to Congress.

Other speakers at the testimonial were:

Robert S. Lasserty, superintendent of the motor vehicle department; John M. Brown, superintendent of Station D, master of ceremonies; Clarence Clorey, president of Mutual Association of Postal Workers;

G. N. T. Gray, director of service relations of National Alliance of Postal Workers, John C. Lymas, president of the Philadelphia Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

NEW JERSEY SOLON

Tribune

11-4-37

Philadelphia, Pa.

DR. F. S. HARGRAVE

TRENTON, N. J.—Dr. F. S. Hargrave, Republican, was elected a member of the New Jersey State Assembly, on Tuesday. He is one of the veteran members of the New Jersey legislature.

Name Warfield As Member Of State Council

Tribune

11-4-37

Illinois Appoints Assemblyman To Important Legislative Berth

Philadelphia, Pa.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Nov.—(ANP) William J. Warfield, colonel of the Eighth Regiment and State Assemblyman, was appointed Monday by Lieut.-Gov. John Stelle and Speaker of the House Louis E. Lewis to serve on the newly formed state legislative council.

All bills that are to be presented to the general assembly must be submitted to the state legislative council for investigation. Representative Warfield will be especially interested in all legislation affecting Illinois Negroes.

G. O. P. "Deserters" Termed Hypocritical In Bolt To Democratic Ranks In Election

Tribune

10-14-37

Philadelphia, Pa.

Alexander And Reynolds "Good Republicans" As Long As Positions Believed Possible For Selves

GOV. EARLE HIT ON JUDGESHIPS

By EDGAR W. ROSTER

Herbert E. Millen declares in a statement to the press this week that he will not make an independent fight for judge but will support the Republican Party.

Millen declares that he is a Republican and feels at this time that his party requires the loyal support of all those who have the interest of the party at heart.

He "refused to follow the lead of other defeated candidates who switched their party affiliations simply because they were not nominated."

"They were 'good' Republicans as long as they thought they could get positions for themselves, and now they claim that they are supporting the Democratic Party for the good of their race. Had they been nominated the Republican Party would have been the best party for their race," stated Deputy Recorder of Deeds Ernest T. Wright. And a whole lot of colored people are thinking the same thing.

It is reported that Hobson Reynolds will receive a job in the Social Security setup for going over for the "good of his race".

Earle Scored

The Chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee pointed out today that "Governor Earle refused to appoint a colored judge when he had the opportunity to appoint 13 judges. All his appointees were white. And neither the Republicans nor Democrats nominated a colored candidate for judge, therefore both parties are even on the judge businss."

At a meeting of the Democrats in the "Colored Headquarters" all the candidates present were requested to speak except Joe Rainey, the lone colored candidate on the ticket.

Millen when asked what he thought about the sitting judges issue, stated: "I have always opposed the sitting judge theory unless the judges have been duly elected by the people. If a judge has been elected by the voters and has a good record he should be reelected, otherwise not. It will be impossible for a colored judge to ever reach the bench if this idea is carried out. Governor Earle proved that when he refused to appoint a colored judge."

Text of Millen's Statement

"I want to thank all those who supported me in my candidacy for Judge of Common Pleas Court No. 7 in the recent primaries. I particularly desire to express my deep sense of appreciation to the United Negro Republican Workers' Association for sponsoring my candidacy.

"As the election laws of Pennsylvania require that anyone who desires to run on an independent ticket must make that fact known before the primaries, I, at the suggestion of some of my friends, organized the Millen Judicial Ticket to be ready for any exigency that might arise.

"In the primaries a number of loyal Negro committeemen, against the orders of their several ward leaders, supported me most loyally. By going into the general election on the Millen Judicial Ticket I would be asking too much of these friends of mine to jeopardize their political future.

"I am a Republican and feel that at this time my party requires the loyal support of all those who have the interest of the party at heart. Therefore, I have withdrawn as a candidate on the Millen Judicial Party and have withdrawn that party name."

Political-1937
Elections.

Pennsylvania.

Joe Rainey Is Elected

PHILADELPHIA—Riding the crest of a sweeping Democratic vote, Joseph H. Rainey, State athletic commissioner, was elected magistrate, here, Tuesday, by a 2,700 majority in 51 wards.

Rainey polled 3,163,131 votes to run third on the ticket. The newly elected magistrate, who will take office on January 3, is the second of his race to hold such office here, joining Magistrate Edward W. Henry, Republican, in the distinction.

Afro American 11-6-37

"I want to thank all voters and others who worked in my behalf and placed race interests above party affiliation," Rainey beamed.

"I am happy that the Democratic ticket won by such substantial colored support and because during the brief time I have been in public office I have so conducted my affairs as to merit such support. I will try to justify the faith that has been placed in me."

[illegible]

Citizens Active

The City-Wide Colored Citizens' Committee, headed by Raymond Pace Alexander and Hobson Reynolds, played a large part in securing votes for Rainey. The headquarters, at 2015 Ridge Street, was a beehive of activity during the entire campaign.

Hundreds of workers with automobiles took prospective voters to the polls. Hundreds of others were stationed at the polls.

[illegible]

The election was marked by a series of altercations between workers for the two major parties in every section of the city. At York and Twentieth Streets and Nineteenth and Fitzwater Streets, it was necessary for policemen to intervene.

City Workers Suspended

Several municipal employees were ordered suspended by Mayor S. Davis Wilson following accusations that they engaged in political activities. A police captain was among the persons relieved of duty, although the executive refused to comment on his action.

Judge Howard A. Davis, presiding over the special election court late in the day, restored hundreds of disfranchised Republicans to the voting lists. It was contended that the voters had been stripped of their voting rights by the Democratic controlled registration commission.

Charge Illegalities

Charges of illegal procedure and methods were made by both parties as the election neared a close. All types of rumors about deals and trades were making the rounds but a check indicated that most of the key leaders were following party regulations.

The Republicans, it was noted, used a larger number of women than the Democrats. The voting increased steadily during the day and early reports showed increases over previous city elections.

J. H. RAINEY ELECTED PHILLY MAGISTRATE

[illegible]

PHILADELPHIA, Nov.— (ANP) —Joseph H. Rainey, state athletic commissioner, Tuesday was elected magistrate on the Democratic ticket as dissatisfied Negro voters continued their defection from Republican ranks. Edward W. Henry has been a magistrate here for several yers, having been elected as a Republican.

11-12-37

Meanwhile, local politicians are wondering who will be appointed successor on the state athletic commission and are anxious for Gov. Earle to appoint another Negro. Rainey was the first colored Democrat to be named athletic commissioner.

St. Louis, Mo.

The new magistrate will hold office for six years at an annual salary of $5,000, the same pay received as a boxing commissioner. He was the only Negro candidate in Tuesday's race.

Political - 1937
Elections.

Tennessee

ED. MILLARD

Athens, Tenn.

WELL KNOWN BUSINESS MAN

CANDIDATE FOR

ALDERMAN

Election Tuesday, July 13, 1937

East Tennessee News 7-8-37
Knoxville, Tenn.

I pledge my support and honest interest in all matters for the betterment of our City Government and Citizenship. Your vote and influence will be appreciated.

Denies R. R. Church Takes Hand In Any Memphis Elections

Globe 10-27-37
Nashville, Tenn.

Memphis. Tenn., Oct. 21—The name of Robert R. Church was played up in the torrid political battle in the Tennessee Legislature both on Sunday and Monday of this week, in which efforts were being made to pass a county unit bill which would curb the power of Memphis in Democratic primaries.

Senator W. W. Craing in a radio address on Sunday night charged that the Democrats of Memphis and Robert R. Church worked together to swing the colored voters to the city organization when a Democratic primary was being held.

Promptly on Monday former congressman Edward H. Crump made a prompt denial of the charge and added,

"I do not know when Bob Church has taken a hand in an election in Shelby County. He is a Republican and I have understood he usually goes North and East election time."

Political - 1937
Elections.

Texas.

BOND AND SCHOOL ELECTION

All eligible Negro voters should interest themselves in the three million dollar city bond issue and school trustee election to be held April 3rd. All Negroes holding poll tax receipts will be eligible to vote in the school board election, while only those holding poll tax receipts and who are property owners in Houston and Harris County will be eligible to vote in the bond election. Negro Labor News

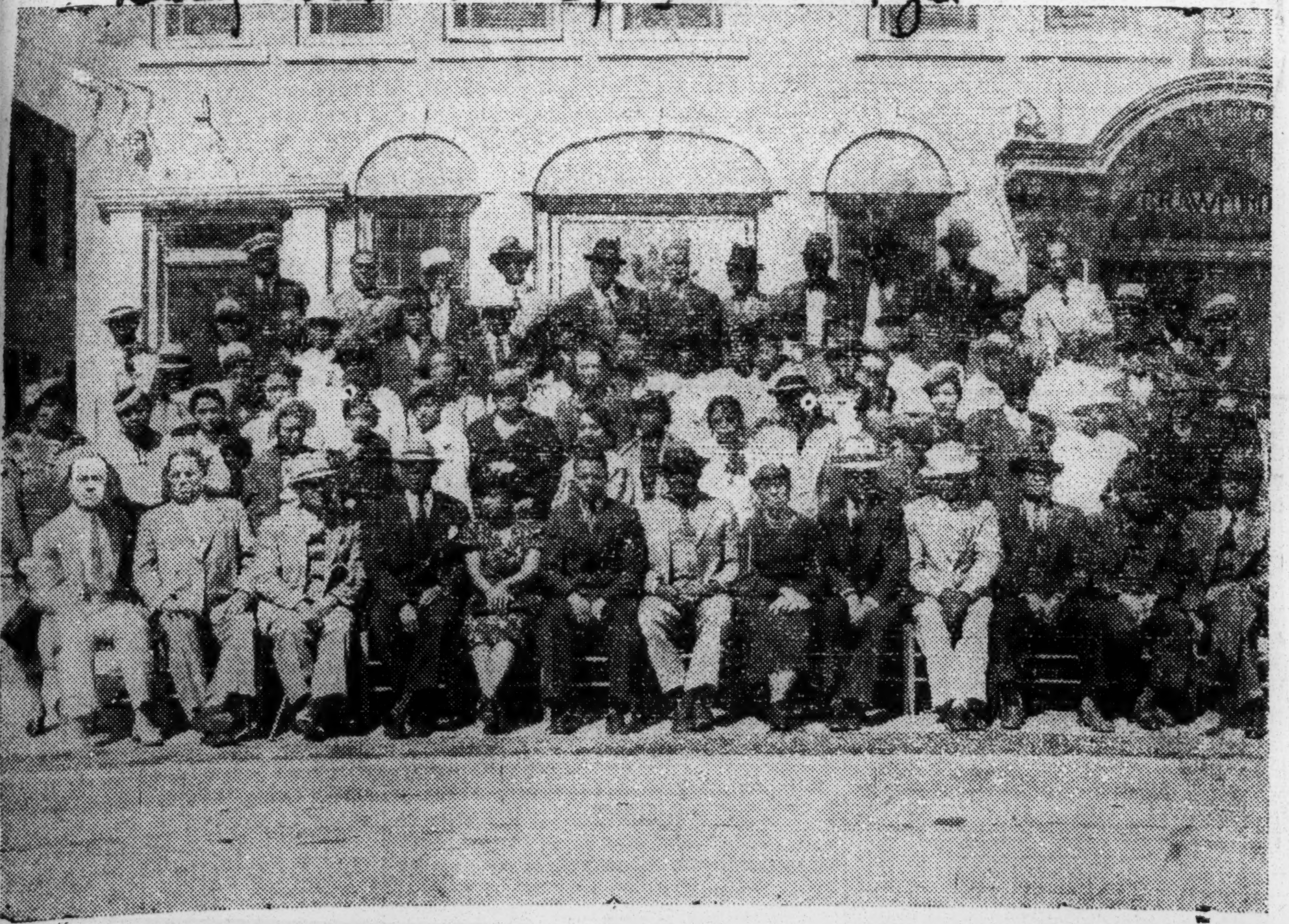
It is not necessary to render your property in order to vote in the bond election according to a ruling made by Attorney General McCraw in an inquiry from Dallas. 3-6-37

The news has not yet endorsed any of the candidates for members of the school board. We think that a citizens committee should be formed to pass on the merits of the candidates and urge the voters to vote in large numbers. The question of Negro education in Houston is of too much importance for the Negro leadership not to show an interest. Texas

Now as to the bond issue, we feel that the civic committee of the Chamber of Commerce should investigate immediately to what extent improvements will be made in Negro sections and inform the colored voters of their findings.

Progressive Voters League Wins In Campaign

Daily World 4-30-37 Atlanta, Ga.



DALLAS, Texas—(SNS)—Officers, Members of the Executive and Advisory Committees, Precinct Captains, Supervisors, and Block Workers of the Progressive Voters League who made history for Dallas by electing five of their candidates to the City Council.

Mayor May Demand Grand Jury Probe On Bellinger Article

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Sept. 30—Mayor C. K. Quinn, according to the San Antonio "Light," Hearst-owned daily newspaper, has threatened to demand a grand jury investigation of an article written by Owen White, New York white writer, and published by Colliers, national weekly magazine, which purported to describe the political association of the mayor with the late Charles Bellinger.

Courier 10-2-37 Pittsburgh Pa.

The mayor expressed the opinion that the article was written to damage his chances for the governorship of Texas, a post which he has been urged by his friends to seek in 1938. He is known throughout the State as the foremost political friend of Negroes since the death of the late Mayor C. M. Chambers of this city.

The mayor clashed with photographers of the San Antonio Light at Bellinger's funeral when he ejected them from the scene and denied the right to take pictures of the rites. Reporters endeavored to get pictures of the mayor attending the funeral.

The article in Colliers has created a furore in San Antonio and copies of the magazine are at a premium here.

The San Antonio Register, weekly newspaper, owned by Valmo Bellinger, son of the late politician, in a column entitled "Tid Bits from the News" written by J. W. Aitch, denounced the article as 'political hookum."

Political - 1937
Elections.

Virginia
6

May Place Candidate In Field For Council

Journal and Guide
3-13-37
Norfolk, Va.

Race Group In Norfolk Ponders The Possibility of New Strategy Next Year

A new innovation bounced into—or out of—the local political grist mill this week. Local colored citizens are seriously considering placing a member of the race in the Councilmanic election next year. Just who the dark horse is has not yet been revealed, but a man of high character and standing is being considered. He is said to be a retired government employee, prominent in church, civic and fraternal affairs. Second choice is said to be a well known member of the Norfolk bar.

The idea appears to have had its birth in a sense of futility that has recently enveloped the local race citizenry. If the thought is ambiguous it may be clarified this way: There is a feeling upon the part of the local colored citizens that the present city government has no idea of doing anything as a matter of duty, right, or sufferance, to relieve the deplorable school, recreation, and sanitary conditions with which they are afflicted.

Just what a colored candidate running for City Council could do about it is another matter. The sponsors of the plan confided to this newspaper that if the right man were put forward it would breathe life and action into two or three thousand eligible but at present unquallified voters who would qualify and go to the polls in the interest of their symbol of civic justice, and while their man may not be elected, he would play havoc with somebody else's man.

Journal and Guide

LEFT OUT OF SCHOOL, STREET PROGRAM

The adoption last week by City Council of an $800,000 street improvement program, with only three blocks of it in the colored sections; a school building program calling for the erection of two more white elementary and one more white high school buildings; and the "establishment and construction of a public park in Ballentine Place," were the straws that completely crushed the badly broken back of the dark camel.

3-13-37
Norfolk, Va.

The announced program was all the more disillusioning to the colored brother, who is now whistling "what the hell!" because ever since last August a modest request for some kind of recreation center has been sleeping as peacefully as an Egyptian mummy somewhere in City Hall. So also have all requests of recent date for more street lights and other needed elementary necessities in the sections of the city inhabited by people of color.

SUPPORT ASSURED FROM OTHER GROUPS

Assurance of support from other minority groups in the city, not exclusively colored, have already been received. sav those who are building the fires under the boom for the Aframerican candidate.

A certain faction of organized labor is said to be counted upon. In addition the idea has struck a sympathetic chord in the hearts of a considerable contingent of white people who feel a sense of shame over the treatment accorded the colored citizens in recent years.

For a young idea the whole thing appears to have a propitious future. according to its sponsors, who express themselves as not being ready as yet to lay all their cards on the table.

SOUTHERN PRECEDENTS TO FOLLOW

Other southern cities have witnessed the entrance of colored candidates in the political field within recent years. Four years ago Dr. L. T. Delany of Raleigh N. C., ran for Democratic city committeeman and was elected About the same time L. A. Austin and L. K. Watkins ran for the office of magistrate in the city of Durham, and both were elected.

A few weeks ago Mrs. H. L McCrorey, wife of the president of Johnson Smith University Charlotte, ran for the City School Board and received more than 3,000 votes out of a total of 10,000 cast. Two colored business men ran for city council in the same primary. Two men are in the councilmanic race in East Spencer, N. C. In other states the same thing is being done or seriously considered

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Democratic Primary Candidates On Parade

Planet
6-26-37
Richmond, Va.

Richmond voters will pass upon the respective merits of the following candidates in the Democratic Primary which will be held on August 3rd.

Governor, James H. Price, Richmond, Va., Vivian L. Page, Norfolk Va.

Lieutenant Governor: Robert W Daniels, Sexon Holt.

Congressman from 3rd Va. District David Satterfield, Jr., Richmond; Gordon B. Ambler, Richmond, Va.

Clerk of Law and Equity Court: Luther Libby.

Clerk of Husting Court, Walter Christian, Llyod M. Richards.

Clerk of Chancery Court, Charles O. Saville.

Clerk of Hustings Court, Part II, Blanchard S. Forbes, Charles R. Purdy, D. Andrew Welch.

Office of House of Delegates: W. H. Adams, Albert O. Boschen, R. Houston Brett, Wilson M. Brooks, George C. Burkhardt, W. M. (Wink) Collins, Charles W. Crowder, [illegible] Carlton Crump, Horace H. Edwards, Minetree Folks, Jr., H. V. Godbold, E. Glenn Jordan, May W. (Mrs. Wade Mason) Ogg, William O. Perkinson, Beverly H. Randolph, Jr.

High Constable: H. Calvin Farmer.

City Sergeant: Wilbur J. Griggs, John G. Saunders.

Treasurer of the City of Richmond: Frank D. Epps, Herbert L. Hulce.

Commissioner of Revenue: John C. Goode, John E. Rose, Jr.

Commonwealth's Attorney: T. Gray Haddon.

Sheriff of City of Richmond: J. Herbert Mercer, John B. Wiltshire.

Justice of the Peace: Madison Ward, Ernest B. Bass, H. Chishold Boschen, Horace G. Dunford, Aubrey L. Garber, Walter B. Gentry, John M. Harding, Graham B. Hobson, Bernard E. Robertson; Jefferson Ward: Charles V. Bosher, James W. (Darby) Enroughty, Marshall G. Folkes, Charlie S. Francis, W. Collier Gibson, Joseph J. Jordan, Leonard J. Lane, J. Kenneth McLennan, Hazel V. Smith, Fred C. Whitman, Sr.; Lee Ward: Mack R Bailey, W. H. Carrier, Jr., Newton L Gentry, J. H. Binford Peay, Wilton L. Point, George E. Williams, Jr.; Clay Ward: Charles W. Atkins, W. A. Crenshaw, George R. Crowder, Edward B Fensom, Archie H. Johnston, Ralph P. Mayo, Conway C. Munday, John W Tyler, Irvine N. Wharton, Jr.

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Chattanooga, Tenn. News
March 13, 1937

Speak Out, Senators, How Do You Stand?

THE attitude of Southern Senators and the Democratic Senate majority towards the President's Supreme Court needs badly to be defined.

Too many of them are still on the fence, and their neutral attitude raises a real danger of a filibuster against the Supreme Court plan.

We hope that these doubtful Senators will study the meaning of the President's plan and announce their position, either for or against. And if they announce against, they will go a far way towards wrecking the New Deal for which every State in the Union except Maine and Vermont voted last November.

If there is any danger at all to the President's plans in Congress, it is due, already, to a certain attitude of Southern Democratic Senators—an attitude perhaps not based on false reasoning in this case. The Southern Senators will fight, as they have in the past, any movement to stop filibustering in the United States Senate. The reason the Southern Senators have insisted on retention of the filibuster has been that through this measure they have, many times in the past, prevented passage of Federal anti-lynching laws. Southern Senators still oppose such laws, and they are likely to let the Court opposition talk at length. Enough Senators from various States are in opposition to the President's plan to conduct a filibuster far into the Summer. Of course, the President has a majority of the Senate, according to present indications. And no time limit is set on the session of Congress. With his majority, the President could keep the Senate in session indefinitely, and probably wear out the filibuster in time. The closure rule, adopted in 1917, which provided that, with two-thirds of the Senate voting, debate could be limited to one hour per senator, has been invoked but four times in twenty years.

At present the President has no two-thirds Senate majority for his Court plan, though he probably will have when the vote comes or if those who intend voting with him would now so signify.

The real issue in this historic fight is whether we want to develop our abundance for use of all the people and to enact humanitarian social legislation, or whether we do not want to do those things.

It is the New Deal vs. the Old Deal.

Although millions of conscientious citizens revere the Supreme Court and have turned slightly from Mr. Roosevelt in the present fight solely on that account, the bulk of the strength on the opposing sides is New Deal vs. Old Deal. We hope that the timid Senators who are still on the fence will realize that fact.

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Peril In Borah Amendment

Advertiser
3-9-37
Montgomery Ala

Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, has come forward with a proposed change in the Constitution of the United States which amounts to a repeal of the Fourteenth Amendment, except insofar as the "due process" clause applies to procedure.

It is perhaps a more dangerous threat to the life, liberty and property of the American citizen than even the President's demand for the power to reorganize the Supreme Court.

The Fourteenth Amendment reads:

> All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

The First Amendment to the Constitution merely imposes restraints on Congress. It says that Congress "shall not make any law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press," etc.

This First Amendment left the States entirely free to pass such laws as they pleased. But the Fourteenth Amendment is a restraint upon the States themselves. It is true that every State constitution in the United States contains the substance of the First Amendment as restraint upon the State itself. But there have been times when the Supreme Court of a State was under political domination and could not be relied upon to enforce the guarantees of religious liberty, the freedom of speech and of the press.

For example, when the late Huey Long was in the height of his power he secured the enactment of a State law which imposed a tax of 2 per cent on the gross receipts of all newspapers having a circulation of more than 20,000. It was deliberately aimed at the daily newspapers, most of them in New Orleans, which had been attacking him and the purpose of the act was to put those newspapers out of business.

It is true that the act might have been attacked in the State courts as an improper exercise of the taxing power, but it was a recognized fact that the Supreme Court of that State was dominated by the Kingfish and the newspapers involved preferred to go into the Federal courts, which they did.

The case of Grosjean vs. American Press Company, reported in 297 U. S. 233 (80 Lo. Ed.) has become a leading case, at least for modern times. It is in harmony with Near vs. Minnesota, 283 U. S. 697, decided a few years earlier.

In the Louisiana case the Supreme Court in a masterly decision written by Justice Southerland said:

> The first point presents a question of the utmost gravity and importance, for if well made, it goes to the heart of the natural right of the members of an organized society to acquire and impart information about their common interests. The First Amendment of the Federal Constitution provides that "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of the speech, or of the press." While this provision is not a restraint upon the powers of the States, the States are precluded from abridging the freedom of the press by force of the "due process" clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

It is one of the ironies of our legal history that an amendment to the Constitution which was intended to safeguard the rights of the newly enfranchised slaves, has been a bulwark of constitutional liberty, as a restraint upon the States in fields far more important.

In view of all these facts it ought to be plain that if Senator Borah were to secure the ratification of an amendment to the Constitution, which in effect, emasculated the Fourteenth Amendment by destroying its substance, and leaving only "due process" in the matter of procedure, the civil and religious liberties of the people, including the freedom of speech and of the press, would be exposed to State attack and the avenue would be closed to taking an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States as was highly desirable when Huey Long, who held the State of Louisiana in his hands, made his assault upon the newspapers of that State.

Senator Borah's proposed amendment was heralded as an enlargement of State's rights and as such enlisted the interest of those who feel that the Federal Government has made too many encroachments on the rights of the States. But as a matter of fact we want no enlargement of the rights of the States which would strike down the guarantees contained in the Fourteenth Amendment, and it is earnestly hoped that the Borah amendment is strangled before it ever gets to the floor of the Senate.—Macon Telegraph.

Negro Paper For Proposals on Court

An indictment against the Supreme Court's handling of cases involving the Negro people is made in an editorial in the St. Louis Argus, Negro newspaper, which supports President Roosevelt's proposed court reform.

The editorial follows:

Daily Worker 3-19-37
New York, N.Y.

We are amused by the editorial comments of some of the Negro papers, in their discussion of the President's move regarding the United States Supreme Court. Some of them, in one breath, say that the President should accomplish his purpose only by amending the Constitution, and in the next breath they cry aloud against "tampering with the Constitution."

We agree with the President when he says, the judges have not properly interpreted the Constitution; because, as we look upon the line of decisions, we, the Colored people, can see in glaring terms, how the Supreme Court has treated cases affecting our civil and political rights. We find in the Constitution these words: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude." These words are plain, anybody can interpret them to mean just what they say. But the Supreme Court has used one technicality after another to dodge this issue, or give the wrong interpretation.

It will be remembered that Congress, on May 31, 1870, passed the Enforcement Act in an effort to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment. But the Supreme Court has always found a way to get around the proper interpretation of the Amendment, thereby defeating the purpose of the Enforcement Act to secure the full protection intended for the Negro in the Constitution.

It is amusing to note one case where the Supreme Court said that the plaintiff, a Negro, failed to prove that he was disfranchised, because he was a Negro, when he and eight hundred other Negroes were denied the vote in the same count, while every white man voted without a challenge. It is just such technical decisions as above-mentioned that the present Supreme Court has used against the Negro, Lo, these many years. Therefore, we not only feel that we, as Negroes, have nothing to lose by a change, but we also believe that every Negro in the country should hail with enthusiasm such changes as the President has suggested, as a boon for a brighter future for the race.

Support Court Proposals; To Attend Senate Hearings

Map Plans for Mass Meeting to Report on Activities

(Daily Worker Harlem Bureau)

Daily Worker 3-19-37
New York, N.Y.

Declaring that the long record of the United States Supreme Court has meant a "raw deal" for the Negro, about Harlem leaders yesterday afternoon elected a delegation to attend the current hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee to support President Roosevelt's Court proposals.

The action was taken at a meeting of the group, held under the auspices of the Harlem Non-Partisan Committee to support Supreme Court Reform at the Harlem Y. M. C. A., 180 W. 135th St.

Chosen on the delegation were: William Pickens, Jr., young Negro attorney, who will serve as chairman; Cyril Philip, secretary of United Aid for Peoples of African Descent; Drs. C. B. Petioni, Cyril C Ollivierre, prominent Negro physicians, and Ben Davis, Jr., of the Daily Worker editorial staff.

DRAFT STATEMENT

As alternate delegates, the group selected: the Reverends William Lloyd Imes, A. Clayton Powell, Jr. and Dr. Reuben Young.

Theodore Bassett, a leading member of the Non-Partisan Committee, said that efforts would be made to assure an audience before the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington and that the "delegation will probably leave this week-end."

Daily Worker

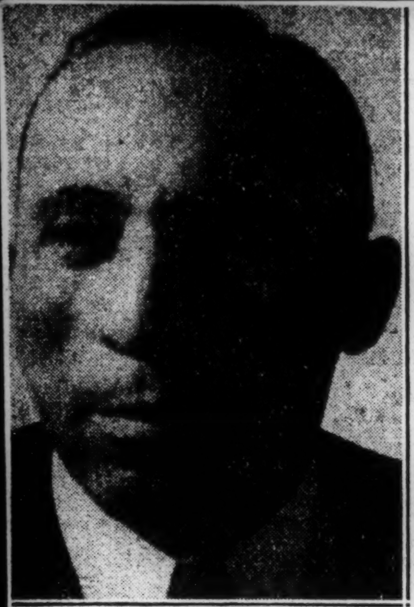
A small committee was also appointed to draft a statement of the Committee setting forth its position and urging other Negro organizations to join in support of Supreme Court reform. On this sub-committee are: Attorney Pickens, Lillian Gaskins of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and Ben Davis, Jr.

MASS MEETING PLANNED

Among those who participated in the meeting yesterday afternoon, in addition to the above named, were: Lester Granger of the National Urban League, Albion S. Chance, P. M. H. Savory, Addison Storey, WPA Teachers Union, Dr. Lowell Wormley, Dr. Robert Wilkonson; Hosea Campbell, Negro educator, and others, representing several shades of political and religious opinion in Harlem.

The Committee plans to hold a mass meeting next week at which the delegation to Washington will make a public report.

The Harlem Non-Partisan Committee was set up last Monday and immediately sent a telegram to the Senate Judiciary Committee urging favorable action on President Roosevelt's proposals. Spokesmen of the Committee stated that "support of Supreme Court Reform will also aid in the fight for the enactment of the Wagner-Van Nuys anti-lynching bill."



REV. WILLIAM LLOYD IMES

BEN DAVIS, Jr.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS

Age 3-13-37 New York

UP IN ALBANY LAST week, several bills of significance to Negroes were introduced in the State Legislature. Singularly enough, all of the bills are designed to amend certain passages of the penal law and to extend more protection for Negroes.

Two of the bills were introduced by Assemblyman Robert W. Justice of the 19th Assembly District, Manhattan, one of them at the suggestion of the N. A. A. C. P.

The first bill, entitled "An act to amend the penal law, in relation to the possession and sale of lottery policies and the offense of common gambling," as we see it, is designed to exempt players of policy from arrest. We agree with its intent, but as we have stated here before, since man's instinct is to gamble and since hundreds of thousands of dollars are now being spent by law enforcement agencies in a fruitless effort to stop policy playing, why did not Mr. Justice go a step further and introduce a bill to legalize policy?

There is much to be said in favor of a legalized lottery game. In the first place, the revenue derived from same would add greatly to the state treasury—it might even be earmarked for relief or charity purposes, thereby allowing the state to use funds now so earmarked for equally pressing needs. In the second place, there would be a guarantee to the player that he would collect his money if he won. In the third place, it could be so regulated that gangsters and gangster-influence would be forever kept out of the game.

Under section 970 of the penal code, one which Mr. Justice would amend by deleting the words "and is guilty of a misdemeanor," if the police should strictly interpret the law no home, club or even church would be safe from invasion by the law and its occupants arrested. Many of our churches hold annual fairs at which are featured various games of chance, innocent as they are, nevertheless under strict interpretation of the law, they might be shown to be gambling devices and its operators and players, subject to arrest as "common gamblers."

Lest we be misunderstood, we are not in favor of promiscuous gambling but we are only human, after all, and we do, like all others, take part now and then in some game which the law calls "gambling". Personally we do not believe in policy playing, believing it to be a sucker's game at which few win, but because we don't believe in it doesn't make it a crime. As long as there are horse races, track meets, boxing and wrestling matches, football, baseball and basketball games and other sports in which the element of luck always is the biggest factor, why should there not be policy allowed to operate under the sanction and subject to the license and approval of the law? We see no difference. We believe Mr. Justice would be doing the state and its inhabitants a good turn if he were to introduce a bill legalizing policy playing.

The bill submitted by Mr. Justice at the suggestion of the N. A. A. C. P., would amend the penal law "in relation to protecting civil and public rights." Our interpretation of it is that it should be a happy companion for the present Civil Rights Law. It would not only allow a person discriminated against to institute civil action to collect damages, but would also make the defendant subject to arrest and upon conviction punished "by fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars." We believe this bill one greatly needed in this state in which the ugly monster, DISCRIMINATION, is being revived by the heavy influx of prejudiced southern whites.

Also introduced in the Senate by Mr. Schwartzwald and in the Assembly by Mr. Lo Re was a bill to amend the penal law "in relation to hostility against people by reason of race, color or religion." This bill, if passed along with the others, would increase the penalties for and make less profitable the practice of discrimnation against Negroes.

We shall await the action of the legislators on these various bills and will keep our readers posted as to the activities of the various Senators and Assemblymen for or against them.

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STACKING THE SUPREME COURT

Despite the rumors of attacks upon the Supreme Court of the United States that have been drifting about since the court nullified NRA, the president's proposal to increase the court to fifteen members, if the six now past seventy don't retire forthwith, was the greatest bomb shell that he has dropped and he has dropped many! The nation is disturbed. Opposition has transcended party lines.

2-20-37

In the last thirty years the Supreme court has been free from attacks and has climbed to a place of great respect, which had bordered upon reverence until Roosevelt and the court came to grips. A great part of the opposition to tampering with the court comes from ~~resentment~~ of interference with an institution we have learned to think of as inviolate.

But this isn't the first time that court has been made a political football. John Marshall, the greatest jurist that sat on the court, was an ex-secretary of state appointed the last night of President John Adams' administration after the number of justices had been reduced from 6 to 5, and in order that the outgoing party would have control of the court after it lost the presidency and the congress.

In 1866 the Republicans reduced it to 8 from 10 so Andrew Johnson could not appoint any members. In 1870 it was raised to nine. There was some opposition when it was raised to nine, although everybody now accepts that number.

Since the days when Chief Justice Taney held Dred Scott was property and could have no rights (saying in an aside that a Negro had no right a white man was bound to respect), that court has been inclined to exalt property to the disadvantage of human rights. It has been more concerned with mere legal technicalities and dry precedent than with social progress. Although the constitution says no person should be denied the right to vote by the United States or a state, the court has studiously studied means of giving validity to obvious evasions of the intent and purpose of the fifteenth amendment.

Of course, there is ground for arguing that the court but follows the law. But as Chief Justice Hughes has said, "The constitution is what the Supreme Court says it is." The court interprets the constitution and could or can interpret it to get the effect intended by the people when they passed that amendment, instead of interpreting it to get the effect desired by the portent South.

The training and background of the court makes it natural for them to give great consideration to property. The justices come from the upper rungs of society. Many of them have represented corporations and practically all of them have come from large practices that permitted them to live above the plane ordinary men live upon; so that they can only experience an academic interest in the proposals for change which affect the man in the street.

That's one side of the picture. But we can't close our eyes to the other side of the picture. Stripped of plausibility and seeming reasonableness, the president proposes to and purposes to set up a court that will do his bidding. The court the president seeks will do his bidding as docily as the courts of Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin now do the bidding of these gentlemen.

With such a court the president will be a dictator with little actual restraint except such as he chooses to exercise upon himself. The congress already eats out of his hand. Over their heads he holds the threat of going to the people, who gave him the greatest majority in our history. Our one bulwalk has been a reactionary group of five or six stubborn old men.

We have supported the president and still think he is one of the greatest friends of the common man that has occupied the White House. But we think it infinitely better to let the Supreme court stay as it is, thus thwarting his good aims, than to remove restraint and make him a dictator.

Time will inevitably cause opportunities for appointments to the Supreme Court. But even if no such chance comes in his term, his party will still be in power and can carry on. Rome wasn't made in a day and if the reforms are really needed they will still be effective three or four years hence.

Despite all we say here or on the streets, however, the president will have his way, unless the people back him off of his proposal which isn't likely. Congress may bluster but it will do what the president wishes. Negroes may console themselves with the thought that the present court hasn't done them any great service and if another comes it cannot do much less.

THE PRESIDENT OR THE PEOPLE

History, we believe, will mark Friday, February 5, as the day when Franklin D. Roosevelt made it doubtful that he would be enrolled among the most illustrious Presidents of this great nation. It was on that date that the President did more to make the average citizen believe the present President harbors the desire to establish a one-man dictatorship in the United States than at any time during an administration which showed unmistakable trends toward a dictatorship. It was on February 5 that President Roosevelt so thoroughly misjudged public sentiment in this country that he dared to make an attack upon the Supreme Court which is only a little less than an attack upon the Constitution itself.

2-19-37

Whatever those who immediately surround Mr. Roosevelt may tell him; however confidently they may assure him that the citizens of this country are willing to surrender their right to pass upon changes in their government and are willing to let him 'make up the minds' of citizens on such matters, it is clear now and will become clearer as the days go by, that even the popular Franklin D. Roosevelt emphatically will be denied the power to override the judicial branch of the government. No mandate was given Mr. Roosevelt to override the judiciary when he was so overwhelmingly returned to power last November; none would be given now if such an issue were fairly and properly presented to the people.

If Mr. Roosevelt or any of those who so partizanly follow his leadership are concerned about what opinion the people of the United States had of President Roosevelt when they elected him, they easily can surmise what it was by a brief reference to the contract Mr. Roosevelt made with the American people when he was a candidate for re-election. That contract is in the platform of the Democratic party. Mr. Walter Lippman, noted writer, calls to our attention a provision of that platform which expressed the party's intentions in the matter of undertaking to enact New Deal legislation. Here is what the platform said:

> "We have sought and will continue to seek to meet these problems through legislation within the constitution. If these problems cannot be solved effectively by legislation within the constitution we shall seek such clarifying amendments as will assure to the legislatures of the several states and the Congress of the United States, each within its proper jurisdiction, the power to enact those laws which state and federal leegislatures within their respective spheres shall find necessary in order adequately to regulate commerce, protect public health and safety and safeguard economic security."

If the above words were employed to convey thought they splendidly performed that service. If they were employed to conceal a purpose at variance with our established order the job was bungled. The people believed, and had a right to believe, that the New Dealers respected the constitution and respected the right of the Supreme Court to interpret laws passed by congress.

The people believed that if the New Dealers were not satisfied with the way the Supreme Court passed upon their legislative acts they would seek "clarifying amendments" to the constitution in the manner prescribed by the constitution. All the proof needed to show that the people had this opinion of the New Deal's future intentions is contained explicitly in what the New Dealers said in their platform—their covenant

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No man in all the history of this country had in his possession more and greater "instruments of power" capable of procuring a re-election to office than President Roosevelt had last fall. It would have been safer for him than for any of his predecessors in office to have boldly stated that he felt the Supreme Court was impeding the progress of his administration and he wanted a shorter cut to a realization of his policies and ambitions. But it is plain that, at that time at least, the President was impressed with the danger of seeking from the people a grant of power such as had never before been given to a Chief Executive. He made his race for re-election to the Presidency on a platform which committed him to the "American way" of serving the American people.

In his first inaugural address President Roosevelt strongly urged the American people to get rid of fear. It has remained for him to strike more fear and terror into the hearts of his people than any other President. His example of seeking unlimited and unchallengeable power in government is 'only the beginning' of what reasonably we may expect from ambitious men who are elected to office in the future. We know what has happened to the liberties of the people in the old world when they have surrendered to dictatorships. The same thing can happen here if our courts, like our legislative bodies, become submissive to the will of the executive branch of government.

Many of those who endorse the President's proposal for humbling the Supreme Court act as though they believed Mr. Roosevelt will be the President for all time to come. They are unmindful of the fact that if the present President is permitted to bring the courts into subordination to the executive branch of government we thereby set a precedent which can and may be used to serve the purpose of a future President who would want even far more dictatorial powers than are sought by Mr. Roosevelt.

For a hundred and fifty years this government has thrived under its present system, composed of three co-ordinate branches. It has become in that brief time the greatest nation on the face of the globe. There is needed only a respect for our law and the proper enforcement of our constitution to secure for all American citizens the "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" for which the founding fathers contended when they wrested the colonies from an old world monarchy. There is hope for still greater triumphs for the United States if we are permitted to hold fast to time-tried principles which have brought us this far on our journey. But all that we have gained can be sacrificed if we become more infatuated with the dash of European dictators than with the calm and orderly methods of procedure by which this nation has conducted its affairs.

We are certain that the American people are prepared emphatically to reject Mr. Roosevelt's request for more power. We sincerely hope and believe that in this crisis the United States Congress will keep faith with the American people. They can do this by insisting that the people, themselves, should be consulted before a major change in their form of government is effected. By this action congress will merit and receive the lasting gratitude of all level headed American citizens. No affront to President Roosevelt can be charged to any member of congress who will adhere to the principle that loyalty to the American people must be given precedence over loyalty to the wishes of a leader, however brilliant and popular.

ENLAFGE TE COUNT, NO,

Bystander

2-11-37

Unfortunately the controversy over the United States Supreme Court is not being discussed by the average citizen on the fundamentals of our system of government. It is results in the final analysis may not be just what ought to be done.

There is no question that President Roosevelt wants a court which will intrepet the law as he wants it done. He wants the judiciary as well as the legislative branch of the government to do the bidding of the executive branch. This The Bystander believes is wrong and contrary to our theory of government.

Des Moines

Iowa

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2-11-37

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government. The present objective may well be the effectuating and protecting of the beneficial legislation, but the result will be to make a dictatorship. We object.

BE CAREFUL, LABOR

Weekly Review

3-7-37

Birmingham

Ala

Organized labor is reported to be planning a "march" on Congress to press them into turning the Supreme Court over to Mr. Roosevelt. Many times in human history the masses of men have helped to destroy their own liberties. It is dangerous to grasp a present good at the risk of eternal losses; to fulfill a present desire, heedless of tomorrow. Mr. Roosevelt may be a relatively safe man to be given so much of dictatorial power—but who knows what sort of human animal will follow Mr. Roosevelt four years from today? Or if they make Roosevelt dictator for life, how long may a life like his last,—and who next?

The American people, dumb as many of them are, will more safely keep dictatorial powers in their own hands, changing their own constitution when and if they can get a majority to do so,—rather than to allow Roosevelt or anybody else to dictate changes in basic law through a puppet "Supreme" Court.

WE OBJECT

Informer

3-6-37

Houston

Texas

We have supported President Roosevelt's plans fairly consistently. We have believed, and still believe, that he is as great an Emancipator as Lincoln. To us he is an able leader and statesman, trying sincerely and entirely unselfishly to better the conditions of the average man in the street. He has both the insight and the courage to push forward plans calculated to get results.

He cannot lift a whole nation out of old grooves and set molds, unless he can break down the walls. Nearly everything he starts the Supreme Court declares unconstitutional—they won't let him break the walls down. It isn't hard to sympathize with his desire to choke off those nine oldsters who stubbornly refuse to get excited about his New Deal. To him it's everything. It's the unanimous desire of a nation to right the economic scales. It's the upsurge of a long oppressed peoeple. To the Supreme Court it's just another reform of an able but overzealous reformer.

The clash has brought a crisis that bids fair to be a turning point in American history. If Roosevelt captures the Supreme Court, our last great bulwark will be gone. However kindly he uses his power, he will be a dictator.

Dictatorships never announce themselves ahead of time. In a wave of enthusiasm, the people give their strong man and hero one power after another. When he has them all he begins to exercise the prerogatives of a dictator. Many, in fact most, of the Germans, now exiles, joined in giving Hitler his powers. They were not thinking of dictatorship and didn't dream he would use his powers that way. The same is true for Mussolini and the others.

No man is good enough to have control of all branches of a government. It were better to let the needed reforms wait than give our constitutional rights into the hands of a puppet legislature. The sanctity of our courts and freedom of speech are the second line defense of our rights. Freedom of speech always goes when the courts are no longer able to protect it.

We are for the Wagoner Labor Act, the AAA, the Security Act and most of the legislation calculated to better the plight of the masses; but we are against stacking the court and giving Roosevelt control of all three branches of with the people.

No man in all the history of this country had in his possession more and greater "instruments of power" capable of procuring a re-election to office than President Roosevelt had last fall. It would have been safer for him than for any of his predecessors in office to have boldly stated that he felt the Supreme Court was impeding the progress of his administration and he wanted a shorter cut to a realization of his policies and ambitions. But it is plain that, at that time at least, the President was impressed with the danger of seeking from the people a grant of power such as had never before been given to a Chief Executive. He made his race for re-election to the Presidency on a platform which committed him to the "American way" of serving the American people.

In his first inaugural address President Roosevelt strongly urged the American people to get rid of fear. It has remained for him to strike more fear and terror into the hearts of his people than any other President. His example of seeking unlimited and unchallengeable power in government is 'only the beginning' of what reasonably we may expect from ambitious men who are elected to office in the future. We know what has happened to the liberties of the people in the old world when they have surrendered to dictatorships. The same thing can happen here if our courts, like our legislative bodies, become submissive to the will of the executive branch of government.

Many of those who endorse the President's proposal for humbling the Supreme Court act as though they believed Mr. Roosevelt will be the President for all time to come. They are unmindful of the fact that if the present President is permitted to bring the courts into subordination to the executive branch of government we thereby set a precedent which can and may be used to serve the purpose of a future President who would want even far more dictatorial powers than are sought by Mr. Roosevelt.

For a hundred and fifty years this government has thrived under its present system, composed of three co-ordinate branches. It has become in that brief time the greatest nation on the face of the globe. There is needed only a respect for our law and the proper enforcement of our constitution to secure for all American citizens the "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" for which the founding fathers contended when they wrested the colonies from an old world monarchy. There is hope for still greater triumphs for the United States if we are permitted to hold fast to time-tried principles which have brought us this far on our journey. But all that we have gained can be sacrificed if we become more infatuated with the dash of European dictators than with the calm and orderly methods of procedure by which this nation has conducted its affairs.

We are certain that the American people are prepared emphatically to reject Mr. Roosevelt's request for more power. We sincerely hope and believe that in this crisis the United States Congress will keep faith with the American people. They can do this by insisting that the people, themselves, should be consulted before a major change in their form of government is effected. By this action congress will merit and receive the lasting gratitude of all level headed American citizens. No affront to President Roosevelt can be charged to any member of congress who will adhere to the principle that loyalty to the American people must be given precedence over loyalty to the wishes of a leader, however brilliant and popular.

ENLAFGE TE COUNT, NO,

Unfortunately the controversy over the United States Supreme Court is not being discussed by the average citizen on the fundamentals of our system of government. It is results in the final analysis may not be just what ought to be done.

Bystander
2-1-37

There is no question that President Roosevelt wants a court which will intrepet the law as he wants it done. He wants the judiciary as well as the legislative branch of the government to do the bidding of the executive branch. This The Bystander believes is wrong and contrary to our theory of government.

Des Moines, Iowa

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Political-1937

Negro Industrial Commission.

Legislation, Suggested, etc.

Tribune 1-30-37 Washington D.C.

The Industrial Commission

Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, (Democrat) of Illinois, has reintroduced his bill to create an Industrial Commission on Negro Affairs, H. R. 2250.

It provides for the appointment by the President, of a commission of five; three colored and two white, as a fact-finding commission to study affairs pertaining to the interest, welfare and advancement of the Negro citizens of the United States of America. This is an important bill and should pass both houses of Congress.

This bill will do in an official and more comprehensive way, what Mrs. Bethune tried to do in calling her conference here, two weeks ago, to formulate a petition to present to the President. This commission will be on the job constantly and will officially present its findings and recommendations to the President.

Section four says:

"That the duties of the Industrial Commission on Negro Affairs shall be to study the economic conditions of the Negro; to study the labor problems in which the Negro is fundamentally interested; to stimulate and encourage thrift and industry among the Negroes of this country; to promote the general welfare of the Negro in industrial pursuits, and to encourage his general uplift; to work out plans looking toward the solution of the different problems confronting the Negro race of the United States; to consider all questions pertaining to the Negro that may be referred to said commission, by any department of the United States Government, and report a suggested solution of any and all problems that may be presented to the commission by any officer of the United States, the governor, or attorney general of any of the states, or labor department of any state in the United States; to recommend what may be necessary for the stability of labor in the different states; to discourage subversive propaganda; to work toward the formation of a policy for mutual understanding and confidence between the races; to report to Congress, through the President of the United States, all their acts and doings and to make such recommendations for the solution of any problem or problems affecting the Negro that they may deem advisable."

Some may say that this bill gives the Negro special attention. Well, he has been given special attention ever since his freedom—but it has been in the reverse to the object of this commission and it certainly will not hurt anyone to have this commission to function properly. The Negro has suffered much for the lack of proper information, which this commission will provide and disseminate where it will do the most good. There is a Bible quotation which says:

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

This commission will seek the truth and the truth properly presented will help to improve race relations and thereby help the whole country. Officials need to know the truth about the Negro; which will improve their official attitudes.

The burden under which the Negro suffers is economic and industrial in nature. This commission, with its fact finding possibilities, is the best way to start constructive work for remedial legislation for the ills forced upon the Negro by his government.

What the American Negro needs is a sense of dignity. The findings of this commission and its proper dissemination of the facts, will add much to the dignity of the Negro and thereby place him in a much better light than now is upon him. He is an American and wants to be considered as such. The Negro suffers much from the failure of governmental officials forgetting him—leaving him out of the picture of American life.

Justice demands that the rights of the Negro as a man and a citizen, be given full recognition, and charity requires us to make special effort in behalf of a race long oppressed.

Few people realize how very restricted has the field for Negro labor become. One important result stands out and that is the studies of this commission may result in the formulation of a labor policy which will foster a better understanding between the races.

When this bill passes and the commission is set up, the Negro will have here in Washington, a body clothed with official authority to investigate, and pass upon every important matter affecting Negro citizens.

This commission will be given a very big job and if we consider the financial end, we can but say that it is rather a small investment for the work to be done and the great service rendered. It will render the nation as a whole, far more service than it will the Negro.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

California

West Coast Lawyer Named to District Attorney's Office

7-17-37

SAN DIEGO, Calif., July 15—(By M. L. Brown for ANP)—Atty. John Roundtree, the only colored lawyer in this city, last week was appointed Deputy District Attorney in the office of Dist. Atty. Thomas Whelan, replacing Edward W. Goodman, who was appointed legal adviser to the county welfare department. Deputy Roundtree was attached to the U. S. Dist. Atty's office in Cleveland, O., before coming west.

CALIFORNIAN GIVEN POST AS CASE AUDITOR

8-14-37

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Aug. 12—The Los Angeles County Department of Charities has announced the appointment of Juanita Elsworth as case auditor in the Bureau of Indigent Relief, recently. The prominent social service worker received the post after passing the civil service examination with high ratings.

FORMER TEXAN TO HIGH POST IN CALIFORNIA

Clarence S. Smith Named Building Inspector in Los Angeles

11-19-37

LOS ANGELES. —Clarence S. Smith, well known building contractor and structural engineer, has been appointed assistant building inspector for the city of Los Angeles.

Smith's appointment, made through Mayor Frank L. Shaw, is another history-making "first" in Los Angeles' annals of the progress of the Negro in government.

Until this appointment, there was not a Negro employed in the state in the inspection division of government.

During recent years, Smith has been actively engaged as a designer and builder of industrial, commercial and residential buildings.

Born on Farm

Smith was born on a farm in Limestone county, Texas, one of twelve children of Simon and Nancy Smith. He received his education there in the public schools. Later he entered Prairie View State college at Prairie View, Texas, and worked his way through college by doing carpentry work and was graduated with honors from the manual training department and from the normal department in 1912.

After leaving school, he taught in the public school system of Lee county in his native state for one year before he engaged in the building contracting business in Waco, Texas, where he worked until he enlisted in the World War in 1917 and was sent to the Officer's Training camp at Des Moines, Iowa.

Improves Education

He was discharged after a brief service because of impaired vision and entered the government employ as carpenter in the building of army cantonments at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

Ever desirous of improving his worth and skill, he entered the Iowa State college at Ames, Iowa, in 1918 where he studied architectural engineering, trades, and industries. He completed his work there in 1922 where he immediately embarked upon his chosen profession.

In 1924, he married Miss E. Birdie Clark of Hennessey, Oklahoma. Since coming to Los Angeles, he furthered his training by attending the University of Southern California and the private classes of Professor C. W. Cook in Structural Engineering, a former professor of engineering at the University of Southern California.

Political - 1937
Office Holding - 6

Colorado.

APPOINTED

DR. J. O. COBB

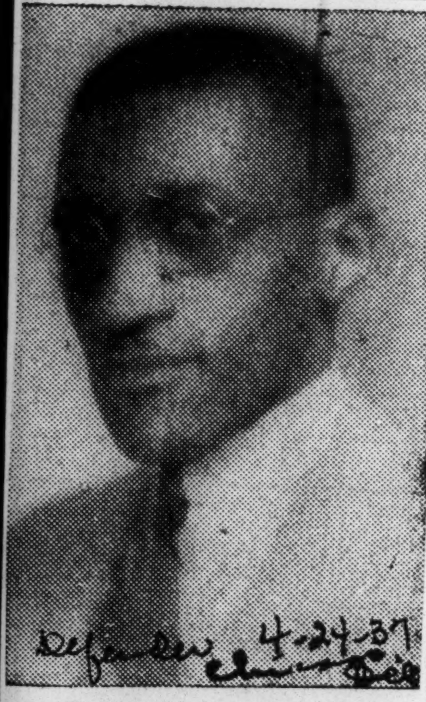
Prominent physician and surgeon of Pueblo, Colo., who has been appointed assistant county physician. His appointment was made by the Pueblo board of county commissioners. Dr. Cobb is bi-state organizer for the Colorado Elks lodge.

Call
3-14-37
Kansas City, Mo.

Political - 1937
Office Holding

D.C.

Governor's Aide



Defender 4-24-37

F. HAROLD JOHNSON

Special aide to Harold G. Hoffman, governor of New Jersey, who arranges appointments with the governor and handles all official correspondence. Mr. Johnson has been instrumental in benefitting the Race in many instances. Notable among these was Negro Achievement week, which was brought about by proclamation from the governor through the intervention of Mr. Johnson. This is the first time in the history of New Jersey a governor issued a proclamation for the benefit of the Race.

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE APPOINTS COLORED PHYSICIAN

Opening Offers Hope for Careers in State Department of Nation

4-2-37

Washington, April 1, (ANP)—An announcement of great interest to the medical profession and to colored people in general was made by the United States Public Health Service this week when news was given out of the appointment of Dr. Charles Lee, who will begin training in preparation for an appointment as a specialist in venereal disease control.

The immediate plans for Dr. Lee, the Negro physician who is being appointed, are to assign him during his probationary period to the U. S Public Health Service Clinic at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, in order that he may review the practical aspects of the clinical management of syphilis and gonorrhea. After two or three months in this clinic he will be assigned for a similar period to work in one of the State health departments under the supervision of one of the experienced officers of the Public Health Service who has been loaned to a State health department to assist in the development of the State program directed against the venereal diseases. Subsequently if the services of the Negro physician prove satisfactory, he will be loaned to State health departments for periods of from three to six months. During this time he will serve as an assistant to the State health officer and to the State venereal disease control officer in developing control measures in the Negro population throughout the State.

4-2-37

West Hamilton On Board of Education

Washington, D.C.

6-12-37

Well Known Business Man and Veteran Succeeds Dr. Johnson

Colonel West Alexander Hamilton, prominent business man, civic leader and Legionnaire, was appointed a member of the Board of Education Monday by the justices of the District Court of the District of Columbia who selects the board's membership.

Colonel Hamilton operates the Hamilton Printing Company in the 1300 block of U Street, Northwest, with his brother, Percy Y. Hamilton. He succeeds Dr. J. Hayden Johnson who retires this month after 21 years on the board.

Native of D. C.

Colonel Hamilton is a native Washingtonian and was born here September 25, 1886, the son of the late John A. and Mrs. Julia West Hamilton. His mother is president of the board of directors of the Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A. and is well known in club and social welfare life of the East.

He attended the elementary schools of the District and graduated from the old M Street High School (now Dunbar High School) and Miner Normal School (now Miner Teachers College) in 1906. He taught for a number of years at the Stevens, Mott and Armstrong High Schools resigning in 1917 to enter business.

The colonel was a member of the National Guard, District of Columbia, from 1905 to 1919. He enlisted in the army and was promoted from second lieutenant to captain and saw Mexican border service at Naco, Arizona from June 1916 to October of the same year.

On April 25,1917 to April 15,1919 he saw service in the World War as captain in the 372nd Infantry and was in France from March 1918 to February 1919. He saw service on the Aire Sector (Lorraine, Vauguois Subsector (Lorraine), Verdun Sub-sector (Hill 304 and Mort' Homme), Meuse-Argonne, September 26 to October 8, 1918, and Arnould Sector (Alsace) October 13 to November 11.

Colonel Hamilton is now a member of the Infantry Reserve and holds the rank of Colonel commanding the 428th Infantry.

He is senior warden in the St.Luke's P.E. Church, past master of Pythagoras Lodge of Masons, trustee of the Community Chest since 1929, director of the Southeast House, director of the American Legion Welfare Department, past commander, James E. Walker Post American Legion, president of the Harrison School Parent-Teacher Association, Chairman for several years of the executive committee Sixth Division of Boy Scouts, member for 14 years of the Community Centers Council, member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and commander during 1936 and 1937 of the first Negro C.M.T.C. unit at Fort Howard, Md.

Colonel Hamilton was married in 1913 to Miss Marcelitte C. Newman and resides at 413 T. Street, Northwest.

J. R. Pinkett Named For Welfare Job

Real Estate and Civic Worker Succeeds Mrs. Coralie F. Cook

Tribune

John R. Pinkett, who has been active in civic and social welfare work for years, was appointed by the Commissioners Tuesday as a member of the Board of Public Welfare to succeed Mrs. Coralie Franklin Cook, who resigned, effective July 1.

7-10-37

Mrs. Cook had served on the board for six years. She was appointed originally in 1931 and received a reappointment in 1934.

Both Mrs. Cook and her husband, Dr. George Cook, who died two years ago, have been active in District welfare activities. He served as a member of the old District Board of Charities, which was replaced in 1926 by the Board of Public Welfare. Dr. and Mrs. Cook played an active part in the establishment of the Industrial Home School for Colored Children.

Washington, D.C.

Pinkett is the president of John R. Pinkett, Inc., a real estate and insurance firm at 1302 New Jersey Avenue. He resides at 122 V Street.

He is 48 years old and was born in Lincolnia, Va., coming to Washington with his parents in 1900. He was garduated in 1907 from the old M Street High School, since replaced by Dunbar High School. He worked his way through Amherst College, being graduated in 1911. He has three children who are graduates of Howard University.

Pinkett is a member of the Board of Directors of the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A., treasurer of the Southeast Community House and a member of the Executive Committee of the Community Chest.

CHARLES E. HALL GETS JONES' POSITION

East Tenn. News

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The office of adviser of Negro affairs left vacant by Eugene Kinckle Jones in the Department of Commerce, and that of Charles E. Hall in the Census Bureau of the Commerce Department will be combined, with Mr. Hall in charge it was learned this week.

7-8-37

Secretary of Commerce Roper announced his acceptance of the resignation of Jones this week, effetive June 30, at the same time stating that Hall would "supervise the work that Mr. Jones has directed since October 1, 1933."

Knoxville

Tenn.

Hall's position was that of specialist in Negro statistics in the Census Bureau of the department. The two positions will be merged into one, he told the Tribune, with him directing all the work in connection with Negroes.

CHARLES E. HALL

This move on the part of the administration had been expected by many observers close to the department. They believed that, with the resignation of Mr. Jones, his office would be abolished or swallowed up in some other. They were also of the belief that Hall would be the logical man to take care of the work.

Hall, who had been a statistician in the department for some time, was promoted to the position of head of Negro statistics about a year ago.

Col. Hamilton Sworn in as Board Member

Washington Tribune

Washington, D.C.

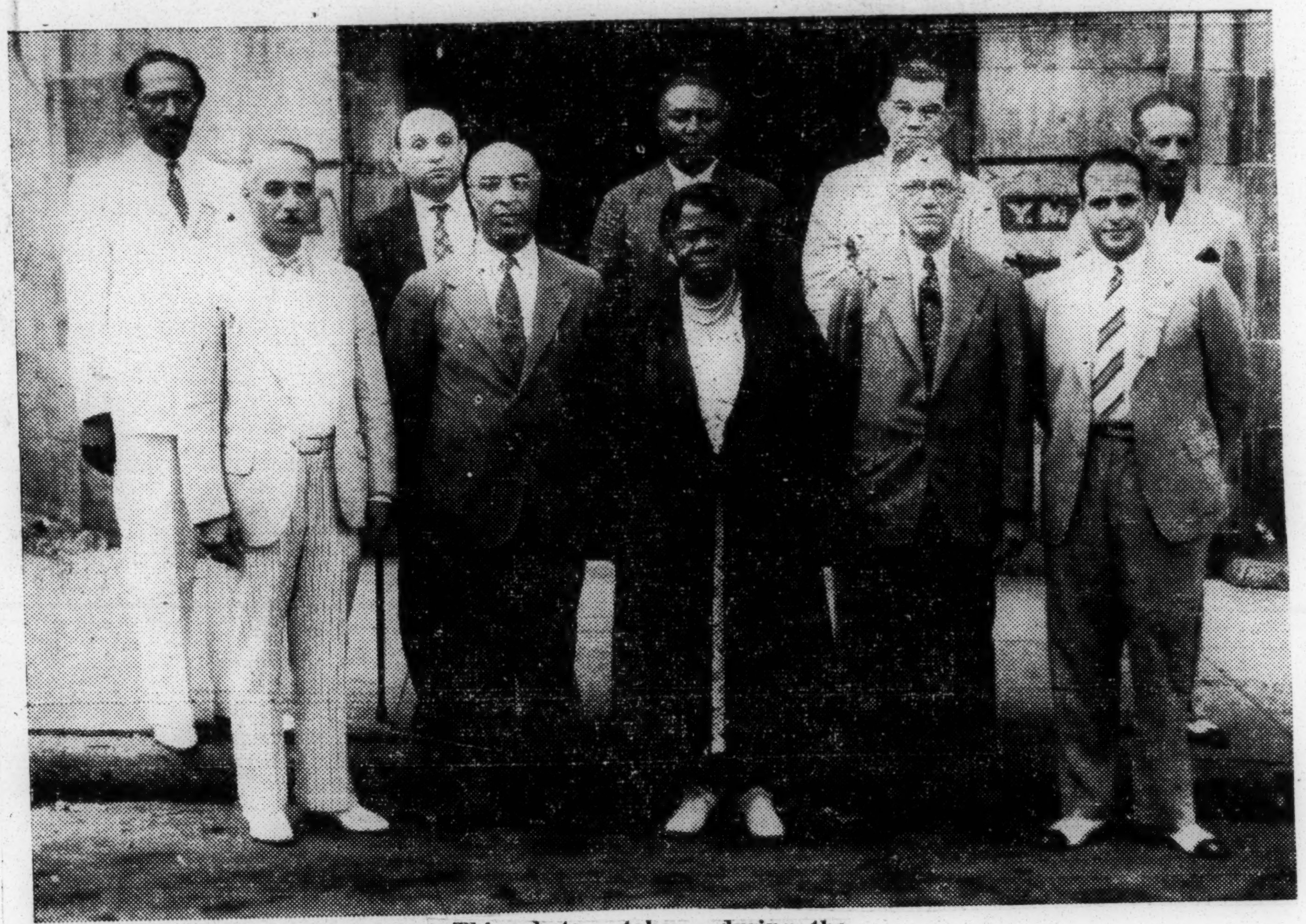
7-3-37

Col. West A. Hamilton was sworn in as a member of the board of education this morning (Thursday) at the Franklin Administration Building. The oath of office was administered by Miss Ethel Ginberg, a clerk.

Col. Hamilton succeeds Dr. J. Hayden Johnson who retired this month after serving on the board for 21 years.. The board met Thursday in order to complete its business for the school year. It will not meet again until September. Appointments are made for 3-year periods. Other colored members of the board are Mrs. Mary McNeill and Attorney John H. Wilson.

Col. Hamilton is owner of the Hamilton Printing Co. in the 1300 block of U Street and is well known in military circles. He is a World War veteran and will leave the first week in July for Fort Howard, Md. where he will be in command of the Citizens Military Training Corps for a period of six weeks.

BLACK CABINET OF NEW DEAL



Daily World

8-21-37

Atlanta, Ga.

The above group, generally called the Black cabinet of President Roosevelt's New Deal Administration, represents individuals who now hold important positions in the federal government. Every colored person should know them and the respective departments with which they are identified because what they say and do vitally affect our interests.

They are left to right, front row: Mr. Joseph H. B. Evans, Resettlement Administration; Lieut. L. A. Oxley, Employment Service, Department of Labor; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, National Youth Administration; Mr. Charles E. Hall, Bureau of the Census; Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Department of Interior.

Back row: Mr. Edgar G. Brown, Civilian Conservation Corps; Mr. James P. Davis, Soil Conservation Division of Agricultural Adjustment Administration; Mr. Thomas N. Roberts, Resettlement Administration, Tuskegee Institute; Mr. H. A. Hunt, Farm Credit Administration; Mr. Alfred E. Smith, Works Progress Administration.

This photo, taken during the sessions of the National Negro Business League held here, is the latest picture of them. They all addressed the convention. Dr. William J. Thompson, Recorder of Deeds, is not shown in the picture. —(Staff Photo).

Political - 1937
Office Holding
6

D.C.

CHARLES E. HALL GETS JONES' POSITION

Tribune
7-3-37
Washington, D.C.

CHARLES E. HALL

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Hall, who had been a statistician in the department for some time, was promoted to the position of head of Negro statistics about a year ago.

Lieutenant L. Oxley Gets Appointment To Labor Post

Amsterdam News

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An announcement was made Monday July 19, of the appointment of Lieutenant Lawrence Oxley as National Field Representative of the United States Employment Service.

7-23-37

During the past four years Lieutenant Oxley served as Chief of the Division of Negro Labor and Special Adivor to the Secretary of Labor on problems of the Negro worker.

This appointment comes as a deserved promotion and places him on the administrative staff of the United States Department of Labor.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
December 19, 1937

NORRIS—Dr. Robert Weaver, Negro leader and advisor on Negro affairs for the U. S. Department of the Interior, will speak at an open meeting at 7:30 o'clock Sunday night at the Norris school. He will discuss "Problems Facing the Negro Today."

President of National Bar Association Third Race Man to Be Given Post by Democratic Party

Courier
8-28-37
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 26—William L. Houston, president of the National Bar Association and one of the outstanding lawyers of the country, was sworn in late Monday afternoon as Special Assistant to the Attorney-General of the United States, in the Anti-Trust division.

The Oath was administered to him by Charles E. Sornborger, appointment clerk in the Department of Justice.

The ceremonies took place in the office of Linton M. Collins, an official in the Justice Department. Among those who witnessed the ceremonies were Matthew F. McGuire, another official in the Justice Department; Ambrose O'Connell, executive assistant to Postmaster General James A. Farley; A. Quayle, acting treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, Attorney Houston's two brothers, Dr. Ulysses Houston and Theophilus Houston and a delegation of local lawyers were present.

Attorney Houston is the third race man selected for this position. Robert L. Vann, first to be sworn in, resigned after serving more than two years. Attorney Theron B. Hamilton, also of Pittsburgh, chosen as his successor, resigned to accept a political post in his home town.

Local Attorney Appointed Aide to Attorney General

First Washington Man To Be Named Assistant In Department

Tribune

William L. Houston, prominent attorney and president of the National Bar Association, was appointed this week to the post of Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States.

8-28-37

Houston's appointment came as a reward for his political work during the last elections, when he headed the Democratic speakers' bureau of the Eastern division of colored voters.

Washington
D.C.

He was endorsed by Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh publisher, and Julian Rainey, former assistant corporation counsel of Boston, Mass. He is also said to have had the backing of Postmaster General Farley and other Democratic Moguls.

It was learned, however, that Houston is not to step into the office vacated by Robert L. Vann, first colored special assistant to the Attorney General under President Roosevelt's New Deal, and that neither is he to assume the post vacated by Theron B. Hamilton, who succeeded Vann.

This was inferred by Department of Jusice officials who parried the question when it was asked if Mr. Houston was to take up where the other two colored Democrats had left of.

May Receive $1,800

They also were non-committal when asked if Mr. Houston would receive the same pay Vann and Hamilton received. They merely said that there were a great number of "special" assistants in the Department and that their pay started at $1800 a year.

Vann's salary was $5,400 per year..

Houston's appointment to the Department of Justice post came as a surprise to local and national Democratic circles. Many names had been suggested in connection with the vacancy and not until the last minute, shortly before he was inducted into office did anyone know that he had been in line for the job.

This surprise move on the part of the Administration has led many political observers to surmise that the appointment was a compromise in lieu of the police court judgeship with which Houston had been prominently mentioned.

The consesus of opinion is that inasmuch as the Democratic party had a debt to pay to Houston, and since the police judgeship has been a bone of contention among local Democrats, both white and colored, something had to be done for a loyal party worker before the New Deal second term tapered off.

Tribune

His appointment came at a time when much criticisms has been levelled at the Administration for what some call its "liquidation" of Negroes in the New Deal setup, since many offices held by Negroes have been abolished and upon resignations the places have not been filled.

8/28/37

One of these was the post held by Forrester B. Washington, in the old FERA, now called the WPA; that of Eugene Kinckle Jones, in the Department of Commerce, which was recently consolidated with that of specialist in Negro statistics headed by Charles E. Hall, formerly held by William Hastie, Federal Judge of the Virgin Island, and that left vacant in the Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics, vacanted by the transfer of Lieut Lawrence Oxley to the U. S. Employment Service.

Washington
D.C.

Mr. Houston is a graduate of Howard Law School and has been a professor of law there for the past 15 years. He was formerly a member of the District board of education.

He is a member of the National Lawyers' Guild, is president of the Washington Bar Association and was elected president of the National Bar Association at its convention in Philadelphia.

Mr. Houston is the first Washington man to be appointed the post of Assistant to the Attorney General.

Gets High Post With A.A.A. Unit

Defender

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 3—Adolph Atkinson, of Goldsboro, N. C., recently was placed in charge of files of the Press Section in Division of Information of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

9-4-37

Assigned to the Division of Information in 1933, Atkinson has risen steadily. The system he has worked out for filing clippings and for handling other information material has attracted attention throughout the department. He got this appointment over several librarians who had degrees for graduate study.

Chicago

Atkinson, the fourth Negro to be given an important appointment with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration since 1933, was graduated from Albion Academy in 1930. Others are James P. Davis, of Chicago; Mrs. R. R. Moton, of Cappahosic, Va; and A. L. Holsey, of Tuskegee Institute. They are field officers of A. A. A. and have worked with farmers throughout the south. Their work has been warmly praised by the Extension Service.

Atkinson was born May 31, 1911 and attended Dillard high school until 1927 and was graduated from Albion Academy. May 1930.

Is The New Deal Liquidating Group

Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (By Rienzi B. Lemus for ANP)—In the light of more or less recent events here, a pert query is: is reduction in the number of colored persons in official and non-labor posts of the Washington Federal setups merely incidental to "liquidation" of the New Deal, or does it signify New Deal "liquidation" of Negroes?

Rejoicing over elevation of Mr. Hastie from a solicitor's post in the Interior department to the Virgin Islands' bench back in April has given way to anxiety over failure of another Negro lawyer to get the place vacated at Interior by Judge Hastie.

9-18-37

Of course, curtailment of promiscuous spending of New Deal puppy days affects all, race regardless. But when Negro heads of departments or sections are so disposed as to actually eliminate salaries and office staffs suspicion, naturally, is aroused. There is the case of Lawrence A. Oxley, for example. Mr. Oxley has been Chief, Negro division, Department of Labor since 1933; additionally, he is attached to the department's bureau of labor statistics, on whose payroll he is carried.

Atlanta Ga.

Oxley Promotion

As of July 15, Mr. Oxley's "promotion" to field worker of the Federal Unemployment Service became effective. If his entire time is to be devoted to unemployment no successor has been named to take as over chief of Negro division. On the other hand, the absurdity er is striking. What has actually er is striking. What has tctually happened may be taken for granted as follows: owing to the constant budget troubles of the Secretary of Labor and President Roosevelt's frown on two much travelling expenses in all departments Oxley was "promoted" to field worker of unemployment service in order to cover his travelling expenses as Negro division chief, since he did all of his own investigating anyway. There is no increase in his office staff; he will be lucky to retain the mere handfull he now has, it is believed.

Kinckle Jones' Resignation

But it was over in the huge Commerce department that the apparent raw stuff was got away with. In 1928 J. A. (Billboard) Jackson was given a job in Commerce. By 1932 he had created and established the small business section of the department's bureau of foreign and domestic commerce—a real institution of service. But Mr. Jackson was Republican, Hoover man; so he had to go when Roosevelt came in. Unable to find a person to take over and go on with "Billboard's" creature, the colored Democratic leaders selected a very competent man — in his field though a Republican, Mr. Eugene Kinckle Jones of New York, executive secretary of the National Urban League. Mr. Jones got along as best as he could until last April, when some colored Democrat got the ear of the White House, thus made both the positions of Secretary of Commerce Roper and Mr. Jones untenable. For a year or more Mr. Jones had been giving only two days a week to the government at full salary, owing to the demands on him by the Urban League; several deserving and competent colored Democrats were each willing to give his whole time for the Jones' salary. Mr. Jones had to go, but none of the deserving got the place. The Director of the Census Bureau came to the rescue of the Secretary of Commerce—and the budget.

No Replacements

Census is a bureau of the Commerce department, and the director advised the Secretary to put a Negro career man in Jones' place. The man is Charles E. Hall, Specialist on Negro Statistics, who has been in Census since 1900, or a few years before the Commerce department was created. Mr. Hall therefore succeeded Mr. Jones on July 1—and how! Out with Jones went his salary. His office space has been returned to white personnel of some other section: his colored (non-civil service) office force gone. Hall's salary has only been nominally increased; he is using his same office and has the same staff; so that the net gain from the shifts is altogether Uncle Sam's. Negroes have a section chief where there were two chiefs; one office staff in lieu of two staffs; one fair salary in place of a good salary and a salary not so good. Looks as though the New Deal is liquidating Negroes.

ADOLPH ATKINSON GETS IMPORTANT POST WITH AAA

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Oct. 7. (Special).—Adolph Atkinson of this city, has just been placed in charge of all files in the Press Section of the Division of Information of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, in Washington, D. C. Since his assignment to the Division of Information in 1933, his promotion has been rapid, and he has received the special commendation of officials of the Department of Agriculture on the system he worked out unaided, for filing clippings and handling other informational material.

Courier

10-9-37

He is the fourth Negro since 1933, to be appointed to an important position with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Others named to outstanding posts with the Administrate include A. L. Holsey of Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Mrs. R. R. Moton of Cappahosic, Va., and John P. Davis of Richmond, Ind. These latter appointees are field officers of the AAA, and their work with colored farmers throughout the South has been warmly praised by the Southern Division of the Extension Service.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Political – 1937

Office Holding

D.C.

~~To~~ Washington

DE WITT HOWARD

YOUNG DE WITT HOWARD GETS APPOINTMENT

◆

Grade of 93 Wins Position In Secret Service of U. S. Mint

Call

11-26-37

Appointed to the secret service department in the United States mint, Washington, D. C., DeWitt Howard Jr., 22 years old, left the city Saturday for Washington, where he assumed his new duties Tuesday in the chemistry division of the department.

The young man received word of his appointment to the Federal Bureau of Investigation while he was at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, where he was doing work toward a master's degree in chemistry.

He was graduated from Kansas State Teachers' college, Pittsburg, in 1937, with honors in his major subjects, chemistry and mathematics. Because of his high scholastic standing attained at K. S. T. C., he was able to enter the graduate class at the University of Kansas without doing any post graduate work.

Former Tennis Champ

Young Howard passed the civil service examination for his present position while he was an undergraduate at the college at Pittsburg. He made an average of 93 per cent, and was given an average of A-1 by the secret service department after an investigation of his other qualifications. He was notified of his appointment in person.

A former junior tennis champion, Howard is well known throughout the Southwest. He is a former member of the Cavalier club of Kansas City, Kas., and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He belonged to the First A. M. E. church of Kansas City, Kas.

The newly appointed federal employe is also a product of the Kansas City, Kas., public school system, having attended Dunbar elementary Northeast junior high and Sumner high schools previous to his matriculation at Kansas State Teachers' college.

In Barksdale Family

A member of one of the most prominent families of Kansas, Howard is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Howard Sr., 2201 North Hallock street, Kansas City, Kas. His father, a railway postal clerk, is clerk-in-charge in the Kansas City to Denver railway post office.

His mother, the former Miss Ethel Barksdale, was a teacher in the Kansas City, Kas., school system before her marriage. She is active in P.-T.A. circles and social and civic groups of this city.

A sister of the young man, Miss Madeline Howard, is also a graduate of Kansas State Teachers' college at Pittsburg, and a teacher at the Grant school here. Miss Eileen Howard, another sister, is enrolled as a freshmen student in the home economics department at Lincoln university, Jefferson City.

A brother, Theodore Howard, is a senior at Kansas State Teachers college. Paul Howard, youngest brother of the new federal chemist, is in the eighth grade at Northeast Junior high school.

Young Howard is a grandson of the late Rev. J. D. Barksdale and Mrs. M. S. Barksdale of 1954 North Sixth street, Kansas City, Kas.

IN U. S. MINT

De Witt Howard, 22-year old native of Kansas City, who last week was appointed to the chemistry department of the United States Mint in Washington. He passed the civil service examination with a grade of 93.

Mrs. M. M. Bethune Attends Gala White House Tea

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—As the guest of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Mary McLeod Bethune, director of the Division of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration, attended a tea at the Executive Mansion here Tuesday in company with a group of women from various administrative and executive positions in the federal government. After a word with Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Bethune was presented to the wives of the cabinet officers who formed the receiving line.

12-14-37

The White House was resplendent with its sparkling lights and fresh flowers. The dining room table was a veritable banquet of various types of sandwiches relishes, cakes, nuts, candies, etc. Mrs. Roosevelt was a most gracious hostess attired in wine colored silk and the distinguished group of women was simply and beautifully attired.

'In all that brilliant assemblage" said Mrs. Bethune, "I was truly inspiried to see the fine, well-groomed brown men and women attendants who served with such competence and distinction as to do honor to themselves and to all of us. As I attend more of these affairs," continued Mrs. Bethune, "I am being received with increasing courtesy and graciousness by many groups to whom it is a new experience to share social amenities with a Negro woman. My purpose in going is primarily to get these people familiar with the fact that we, too, belong there. I felt very much at home and enjoyed myself immensely."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has accepted Mrs. Bethune's invitation to be guest speaker at the Conference Dinner Meeting of the National Council of Negro Women on December 18th at the YWCA., New York City.

Political-1937
Office Holding.

General.

Legislative Sentinels

Journal and Guide
7-20-37
Norfolk, Va.

IN our enthusiasm over New Deal legislation beneficial to our group we should pause to evaluate the progressive legislation now in force and being submitted in several State Legislatures through the initiative of our own legislators.

Negro State Representatives have introduced, and had enacted—in some cases, with the aid of white liberals—many laws to improve our social, economic, educational and industrial status.

Legislators representing Negro constituents, but not of their racial kin, often fail to promote such legislation, not that they are unsympathetic or disinterested, but rather because their political obligations to vested interests of their own group are so diversified, they have little time to give serious thought to our larger needs.

It is no disparagement to them to say that, the plight of Negro citizens would be worse in many respects but for the alertness of our legislative spokesmen in the assemblies.

The work they have done and the interest they are manifesting in protecting the rights of their constituents under New Deal auspices in the various States deserve commendation.

The task of Negro legislators is not only difficult but extremely herculean because of the tides of prejudice and indifference with which they must contend so often. Whatever they have gained for the group has been done invariably at much personal sacrifice and moral courage.

ROOSEVELT'S NEGRO POLICY

By KELLY MILLER

Age
4-10-37
New York
N.Y.

The appointment of William H. Hastie as Federal Judge of the Virgin Islands indicates President Roosevelt's broad-minded interest in the welfare of the colored race. Professedly, he has no specific Negro policy. At the beginning of his administration, he engaged to integrate all elements of the American people, barring none, into the general equation of national welfare. He began at the very bottom by asserting his concern for "the forgotten man."

In his address at the dedication of the Chemistry building at Howard University last fall he declared that there should be no forgotten races. As this address was made at the height of the presidential campaign, it may or may not have had political implication. President Roosevelt has refused to single out the Negro for any peculiar formula of treatment. He has not dramatized the political and civic hardships, as the Republican Party has done ever since reconstruction. He refused to indulge in impossible promises to remedy obvious and just grievances when he had neither the power nor the purpose to do so. His policy, if it can be called such, has been constructive and ameliorative, and not blatant and declamatory. The Republican Party has long since discredited itself with the Negro voter by its pre-election promises and post-election non-performance.

Under President F. D. Roosevelt's administration the Negro has received more generous treatment than under any of his predecessors since his distant kinsman, Theodore Roosevelt. Indeed he has accorded the Negro greater official recognition than his four Republican predecessors, including Taft, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover.

Until the coming of Franklin D. Roosevelt, it was generally understood that the Democratic Party, under the domination of its southern wing, was hostile to governmental recognition of the Negro. Although the Democratic contingent of the North was every whit as friendly as their Republican counterparts in that section, yet such blatant Southern Negro baiters as Tillman, Vardamann, Heflin, Blease and others of that ilk were so noisy as to frighten their northern copartizans into silence.

But during the last four years no voice of racial vituperation or bitterness has been heard on the floor of either house of Congress. Indeed, in a Congress which is Democratic in both branches, a resolution was introduced by a Negro representative, and passed unanimously, forbidding discrimination on account of race or color in the recruitment and operation of the CCC camp. This forbiddance of discrimination on acocunt of race or color in a government function reminds us of reconstruction days. We must attribute this subsidence of race rancor in the Democratic Party to the powerful persuasive influences of its head. Without fuss or furor, President Roosevelt has appointed a number of colored men to high Federal office and has assigned numerous others to important departmental positions.

Grover Cleveland, after scouring the country, selected a Negro Democrat for the position of Recorder of Deeds for Washington, D. C., but was unable to persuade a Democratic Senate to confirm him. Woodrow Wilson nominated a distinguished Negro as Register of the Treasury, but was compelled to withdraw the nominee because of the stubborn resistance of southern senators. Indeed, it became the avowed policy of both the Democratic and Republican administrations not to nominate a Negro for a confirmatory offices because of the difficulty in leaping the senatorial hurdle. The Minister to Liberia and a Municipal judgeship in the District of Columbia formed the only exceptions since the days of Harding. President Roosevelt, however, has made the customary Negro appointees and secured their unanimous confirmation at the hands of a Democratic Senate.

The appointment of Judge Hastie breaks new ground and is the first invasion by the Negro of the Federal Judiciary. His appointment was not due to any political activity on his part. Here stubborn opposition might have been anticipated, but none was forthcoming. Judge Hastie probably has never voted in his life, or controlled or influenced a single Democratic vote. He was appointed as an attorney in the Interior Department and rendered such efficient service of a legal character that the President felt justified in promoting him to the Federal Bench. The fact of his appointment, and his unanimous confirmation by the Senate speaks louder than words of President Roosevelt's policy and purpose concerning the colored element of our population.

The clear intention of President Roosevelt to give the Negro consideration as a factor in the government equation has robbed the Republican Party of its chief political dynamic. The scare-scrow of southern hostility and Democratic unfriendliness has gone with the wind. Comparatively speaking, the balance of advantage now falls on the Democratic side of the fence.

The method of the New Deal, indicated in Mr. Roosevelt's first campaign, and demonstrated in his first administration, has effectively weaned the Negro from his one-sided adherence to the Grand Old Party of days gone by. In the future the race vote will, in all probability, be more evenly divided between the rival parties, if, indeed, the G. O. P. is again to acquire the status of a rival.

SENATE PASSES BILL TO EXTEND TERMS OF TERRITORIAL JUDGES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
7-10-37

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8.—The Senate passed last Monday a bill to extend the term of Federal territorial judges from 4 to 10 years. Federal judges in the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Panama Canal Zone would be affected.

Senator M. M. Logan, Democrat, of Texas, who introduced the measure, said he regarded it as unfair to send a judge outside the United States to serve only four years when it is probable that the administration will change or that he might be displaced at the end of his term.

The bill, if approved by the House, will not increase the terms of judges who are now serving.

DALLAS NEXT

Planet
Richmond Va
7-3-37

Dallas, Texas will in the near future join sister southern cities in the employment of Negro police officers.

Louisville, Ky., Memphis and Knoxville, Tenn., Sarasota and Tampa, Fla., Beaumont, Houston and Galveston, Texas; Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Okmulgee, Okla., already have seen the utility of combating crime and assuring strict law enforcement through the use of Negro police officers particularly in the sections of those cities where a large percentage of the Negro population resides.

Dr. Monroe N. Work, director of Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, makes the following observation on the point:

"The demand is growing, especially by Negroes themselves, that in the districts of cities where the Negro predominates, Negro policemen should be used. It is urged that this would be a means, not only of reducing crime, but likewise of preventing racial function. The experience in connection with the use of Negro policemen seems to bear out these claims."

7-3-37

Dallas sees the light. Here in Richmond, Virginia, Ephraim is wedded to its idol. A silly lily-white policy which precludes the employment of Negroes as police officers or in any responsible municipal positions blocks a constructive approach to crime prevention and detection and to progress and desirable interracial relations.

Here is an opportunity for those who constantly use the catch phrases "interracial relations" to demonstrate its usefulness in a definite way. Erase this proscription imposed by color prejudice and Richmond will enjoy real interracial cooperation. At any event, she should take notice that Dallas is leaving the company of backward southern cities which prefers swollen crime rates to the employment of Negro policemen.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

Historical.

The Black Cabinet--Then And Now

By KELLY MILLER

The Black Cabinet is supposed to consist of high colored office holders at the National Capital who have the ear of the administration in matters touching the welfare of the race. These celebrities were supposed to exert great influence and were held in high esteem in the good old days of the years gone by. Frederick Douglass, John M. Langston, B. [illegible] er of something else, or the minister to somewhere. Two inaugural balls were held for the entertainment of the politicians who visited the Capital with a hope of swelling the ranks of the Black Cabinet. Although many of them fell by the wayside still hope sprang eternal in the politician's breast.

2-5-37

But alas, times have changed. In the administration of President Taft the influence and fame of the Black Cabinet began to dwindle. With the coming of Woodrow Wilson and the passing of Booker T. Washington, it faded completely out of sight. The eight consecutive Democratic years of Woodrow Wilson put the institution entirely out of commission and only the Judge of the Municipal Court was left to tell the tale of departed glory. Under the administrations of Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover the Recorder of Deeds, Perry W. Howard and a Municipal Judge were about the only ones left. There was some faint attempt at reviving the Black Cabinet but the lily white Republican spirit which invaded these adminstrations hardly encouraged its revival. There were not left enough office holders to keep alive the spirit of the Black Cabinet which, under the leadership of Booker T. Washington, flourished like a green bay tree.

I had intended to include in this release the substitute for the Black Cabinet, under the New Deal, but perhaps I had better reserve this for another story.

der a Democratic regime. The two non-consecutive administrations of Grover Cleveland almost wiped the institution out of existence. The few colored men who were appointed to high stations under this liberal-minded Democrat, such as William Trotter and C. H. J. Taylor, exerted only individual and personal influence upon their great sponsor and did not attain much favor or following among their own race. The Black Cabinet reached its climax in the administrations of Roosevelt and Taft. Such outstanding figures as A. P. Cheatham, Judson Lyons, Lincoln Johnson, William H. Lewis, John C. Dancey, W. T. Vernon and Ralph Tyler occupied the front seats in Booker Washington's band wagon. Whatever influence they exerted on the administration was through the master hand of the great Tuskegeean who, after all is said and done, was the only commanding political leader of the race as a whole, who has yet appeared. His political following flocked to Washington from East and West, North and South to sit down in the kingdom of their great leader and eat sugar out of his hand. Booker T. Washington was recognized by Roosevelt and Taft as the unchallenged spokesman for his race. whatever patronage they accorded to the race was dispensed by him. The Black Cabinet knew its leader as the ass knoweth his master's crib. There used t obe held at the National Capital a banquet for the Register of something, the Recorder of something else, or the minister to somewhere. ... Bruce, Governor Pinchback, and John R. Lynch stood out preeminently like great Colussi in the golden ~~age of the Grand~~ Old Party. The ~~term Black~~ Cabinet, however, was not applied until these old reconstruction war horses had passed from the scene and Booker T. Washington had risen to political ascendency. The Black Cabinet is essentially a Republican institution and does not flourish un-

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Somerville, Tenn.. Falcon
March 11, 1937

NEGRO REPRESENTATIVES

Two negroes, Dave Rivers and Monroe Gooden, have represented Fayette County in the Tennessee Legislature. Both were elected in the early eighties. Gooden, who lived in the fifth district, was one of the last negroes to serve in the county court.

Our Congressmen

The Hon. Henry Plummer Cheatham

(1857-1935)

By ARTHUR J. SMITH

(ED. NOTE: This is the eleventh of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author, Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, DC., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at 50 cents.

Born near Henderson, Granville (now Vance) County, N.C., December 27, 1857. Attended the public schools, and was graduated from Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C., in 1883; principal of the State Normal School at Plymouth, N.C., 1883-1884; register of deeds of Vance County, 1884-1888; studied law, but did not practice.

Rank: United States Representative.

Elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first and Fifty-second Congress, and served from March 4, 1889, to March 3, 1893; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1892 to the Fifty-third Congress. In 1897, President McKinley appointed him recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, and he served from 1897-1901, when he resigned.

Moved to Oxford, N.C., in 1907; became superintendent in 1907 of the North Carolina Orphanage at Oxford, which he helped to found in 1887; elected president of the Negro Association of North Carolina.

Afro American 8-14-37
Baltimore, Md.

Died October 29, 1935.

While serving in Congress he was present to vote for the following States to join the Federal Union: North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Washington, 1889, respectively, and Ihado and Wyoming, in 1890, respectively.

Our Congressmen

Afro American

The Hon. George Washington Murray

(1853-1926)

By **ARTHUR J. SMITH**

(ED. NOTE: This is the twelfth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author, Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at 50 cents.

8-21-37

George Washington Murray

Born near Rembert, S.C., September 22, 1853; educated in the public schools of his State, and the University of South Carolina, at Columbia; taught school for fifteen years. U.S. inspector of customs at the port of Charleston, S.C., 1890-1892.

Rank: United States Representative; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-third Congress, and served from March 3, 1893 to March 3, 1895; successfully contested the election of William Elliott, white, to the Fifty-fourth Congress, and served from June 4, 1896, to March 3, 1897, after which he retired and engaged in the real estate business. Moved to Chicago in 1905 and engaged in literary pursuits and lecturing.

Died in Chicago April 21, 1926; interment in Lincoln Cemetery.

During his term in Congress he was present to vote for the admission of Utah to statehood in the Federal Union in 1896.

Our Congressmen

The Hon. Josiah Thomas Walls

(1842-1905)

By **ARTHUR J. SMITH**

Afro-American

(ED. NOTE: This is the fourteenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author, Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at 50 cents.)

JOSIAH THOMAS WALLS

Born in Winchester, Frederick County, Va., December 30, 1842; received a limited schooling. Adopted State: Florida; occupation, truck farmer.

9-4-37

Rank: United States Representative.

In 1868 he was a delegate to the State Constitutional Convention, and served in the State Senate, 1869-1872; elected to the Forty-second Congress, and served March 4, 1871, to January 29, 1873, when he was succeeded by Silas L. Niblack (white) who contested Mr. Long's election.

He was re-elected to the Forty-third Congress, and served from March 4, 1873, to March 3, 1875; presented his credentials as a member-elect to the Forty-fourth Congress and served from March 4, 1875, to April 19, 1876, when he was succeeded by Jesse J. Finley, white, who contested his election in the House of Representatives.

Baltimore

After his term expired, he resumed his occupation as truck farmer.

He was the first and only colored person elected to Congress from Florida.

Died in Tallahassee, Fla., May 5, 1905. Interment in the colored cemetery.

The Colored Congressmen

By **ARTHUR J. SMITH**

Editor's Note: This is the fifteenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographical sketches of the colored Congressmen written by Arthur J. Smith, 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest. The author has been employed as a messenger in the State Department for the past 33 years and compiled the information on the Congressmen during his evening hours after work.

Tribune 9-4-37

HONORABLE CHARLES EDMUND NASH (1844-1913)

Born in Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, La., May 23, 1844; educated in the common schools; during the Civil War he entered the U.S. Army as a private, in the Eighty-second Regiment, United States Volunteers, "Classeur's d' Afrique." and for valiant and heroic acts at Fort Blakely, Ala., in which he lost a leg, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major and was honorably discharged. In 1865 he was appointed U.S. Inspector of Customs in Louisiana.

Washington D.C.

Elected as a Republican to the Forty-fourth Congress, and served from March 4, 1875, to March 3, 1877; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1876 to the Forty-fifth Congress; after his term expired, he retired. In 1882 he was appointed Postmaster at Washington, St. Landry Parish, La., which position he held for some time, when he resigned and moved to New Orleans, where he resided until his death June 21, 1913; interment in St. Louis Cemetery No. 3.

During his term in Congress he was present to vote the admission of the State of Colorado into statehood and to sisterhood in the Federal Union in 1876.

He has the distinction of being the only Negro elected and seated in the House of Representatives from Louisiana.

—Copyright, 1937.

Historical

Political-1937
Office Holding

Our Congressmen

The Hon. Charles Edmund Nash

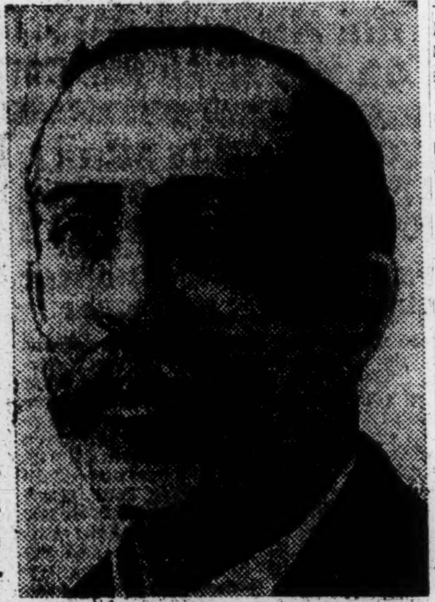
(1844-1913)

Afro-American 9-18-37

By ARTHUR J. SMITH

(ED. NOTE: This is the sixteenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)

Balto



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Tribune 9-11-37

Washington, D.C.

HONORABLE ROBERT SMALLS (1839-1915)

Born in Beaufort, S.C., April 5, 1839; self-educated. In 1851 he moved to Charleston, S.C., where he worked as a "rigger," and thus became familiar with ships and the life of a sailor. He first became connected with the "Planter," a steamer plying in the harbor of Charleston as a transport in 1861.

On May 13, 1862, he took the Confederate steamboat "Planter" (the special dispatch boat of General Ripley, the Confederate post-commander at Charleston (S.C.), from the wharf at which she was lying and piloted the vessel safely out of Charleston harbor, with his crew of eight colored men, and delivered his vessel to one of the vessels of the Federal fleet, which was then blockading the port of Charleston; he ran the gauntlet by heroic skill and passed his vessel before the guns of the Confederates at Fort Sumpter before he was detected. He was given the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy, and acted as pilot on the "Planter" and the "Crusader." He was also pilot of the U.S. Monitor "Keokuk" in the memorable attack on Fort Sumpter by the Federal fleet, April 7, 1863. He was later put in charge of "Light House Inlet" as pilot. In December, 1863, he was "ordered to act as captain of the 'Planter.'" In September, 1866, he carried the vessel to Baltimore where she was put out of commission and sold. In 1864 his salary was $150 per month, the highest salaried Negro in the United States. For gallant and meritorious conduct he was "promoted to the rank of captain in the navy, December 1 1863." * * *

After the Civil War ended he entered politics and was elected a member of the state constitutional convention in 1868, and served in the state house of representatives in 1868; elected a member of the state senate, 1870-1872. Elected in 1874 to the Forty-fourth Congress and served from March 4, 1875, to March 3, 1877. In 1876 he was reelected to the Forty-fifth Congress and served from March 4, 1877, to March 3, 1879; unsuccessful candidate for reelection to the Forty-sixth Congress in 1878; successfully contested the election of George D. Tillman, white (brother of the late U.S. Senator Benjamin Ryan Tillman), to the Forty-seventh Congress; again elected to the Forty-eighth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Edmund W. M. Mackey (white); reelected to the Forty-ninth Congress, and served from March 18, 1884, to March 3, 1887; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1886 to the Fiftieth Congress. In 1897 President McKinley appointed him collector of the port of Beaufort, S.C., which position he held continuously until the Democratic administration under President Wilson in 1913.

He died in Beaufort, S.C., February 22, 1915; interment in the Tabernacle Baptist Church Cemetery.

During his term in Congress he was present to vote for the admission of Colorado into statehood and to join the Federal Union in 1876; and he was the first Negro to serve as a Republican in a Democratic administration Grover Cleveland's first term.

—Copyright 1937.

Our Congressmen

Afro-American

The Hon. Blanche Kelso Bruce

(1841-1898)

By ARTHUR J. SMITH

9-25-37

(ED. NOTE: This is the seventeenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)

BLANCHE KELSO BRUCE

Born near Farmville, Prince Edward County, Va., March 1, 1841; received his primary education through private instruction; taught school for a short while in Hannibal, Mo., and later attended Oberlin College, Ohio, where he persued an elective course.

After the Civil War he went to Mississippi, in 1868, and entered public life in that State and became a planter; in 1870 he was appointed sergeant-at-arms of the State Senate.

Later he was elected sheriff and tax collector (both were consolidated) of Bolivar County in 1872-1875; also a member of the Mississippi Levee Board.

In 1874 he was elected as a Republican to the United States Senate, and served his full term, beginning March 4, 1875, to March 3, 1881, when he retired, having the honor and distinction of being the first colored man to ever serve one full term in the highest council of the nation. He served in the Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Congresses inclusive.

Baltimore, Md.

He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention held in Chicago, June 2-8, 1880, at which time he was nominated for Vice-President (on the ticket with James A. Garfield) and received eight votes for Vice-President; he was also a delegate to the Republican National Convention that met in Chicago June 19-24, 1888, and was nominated for Vice-President (on the ticket with Benjamin Harrison) and received eleven votes for the Vice-Presidency.

President James A. Garfield, appointed him register of the U.S. Treasury, May 19, 1881, and he served until 1885; President Benjamin Harrison appointed him recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia in 1891 and he served until 1893.

President William McKinley appointed him for his second term as register of the treasury in 1897, and he held the office until his death in Washington, D.C., March 17, 1898. Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery.

During his term as U.S. Senator, he was present to vote for the admission of the State of Colorado into the Federal Union in 1876.

Our Congressmen

Afro American

The Hon. John Roy Lynch

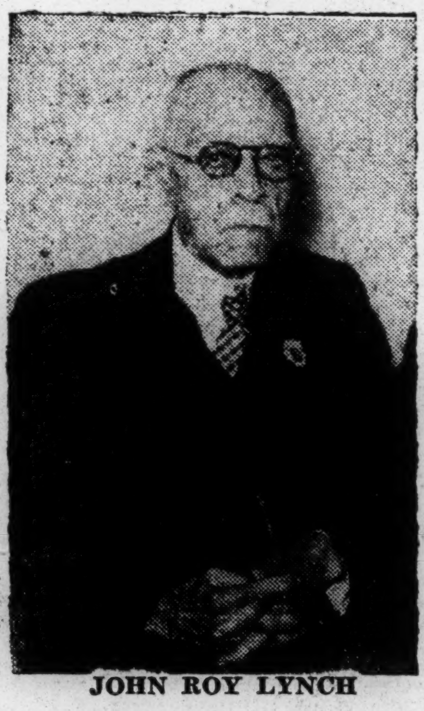
(1847—)

10-2-37

By ARTHUR J. SMITH

Baltimore, Md.

(ED. NOTE: This is the eighteenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author, Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)



JOHN ROY LYNCH

Born near Vidalia, Concordia Parish, La., September 10, 1847. When he was a child his parents moved to Natchez, Miss., where he attended evening schools and was tutored by private instructors; hungry for education, he read the best works published and available at that time on ancient and modern literature. He engaged in the business of daguerrotype (photography) until 1869, when Governor Adelbert Ames (provisional) appointed him a justice of the peace for Adams County (Natchez), Miss. He held this position until he was elected to the State House of Representatives and served from 1869-1871; re-elected and served from 1872-1873; in the latter term, he served as speaker of the House of Representatives.

Elected as a Republican to the Forty-third and Forty-fourth Congress, and served from March 4, 1873, to March 3, 1877; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1876 to the Forty-fifth Congress; successfully contested the election of James R. Chalmers (white) to the Forty-seventh Congress and served from April 29, 1882, to March 3, 1883; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1882 to the Forty-eighth Congress; returned to his plantation in Adams County, Miss., and engaged in agriculture.

Chairman of the State Republican executive committee 1881-1889; member of the Republican National Committee for the State of Mississippi, 1884-1889; elected temporary chairman of the Republican National Convention at Chicago in 1884, at which time James Gillespie Blaine of Maine was nominated for the Presidency.

Fourth auditor of the Treasury for the Navy Department under President Harrison, 1889-1893; studied law and was admitted to the Mississippi bar in 1896; returned in 1897 to Washington, D.C., where he practiced his profession until 1898, when he was appointed a major and additional paymaster of volunteers during the Spanish-American War by President McKinley.

Appointed by President McKinley a paymaster in the regular army with rank of captain in 1901; promoted to major in 1906; retired in 1911, and is a resident of Chicago, Ill.

During his service in Congress he was present to vote the admission of Colorado into statehood in 1876 and support the Civil Rights Bill of 1875.

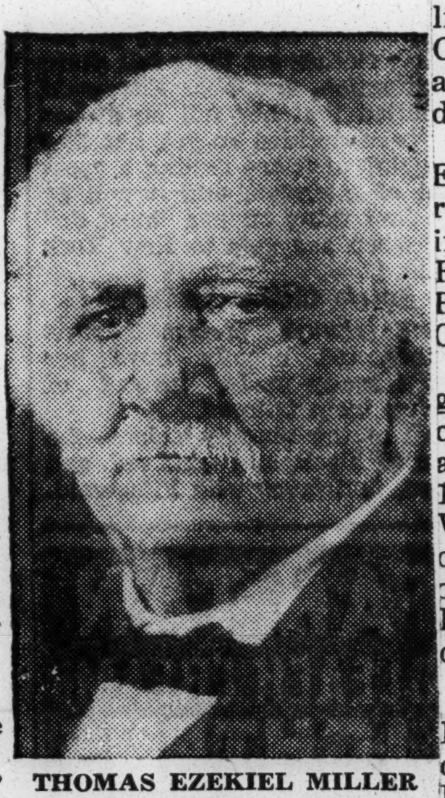
Our Congressmen

The Hon. Thomas Ezekiel Miller

(1849—)

By ARTHUR. J. SMITH

(ED. NOTE: This is the nineteenth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author Arthur J. Smith, of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)



THOMAS EZEKIEL MILLER

Born in Ferrebeeville, Beaufort County, S.C., June 17, 1849; attended the public schools in Charleston, S.C., and Hudson, N.Y.; was graduated from Lincoln University, Chester County, Pa., in 1872;

Afro-American

School commissioner of Beaufort, S.C., in 1872; studied law, and admitted to the bar in 1875, and practiced his profession in Beaufort;

10-9-37

Member of the State executive committee, 1878-1880; elected a member of the State Senate in 1880. He successfully contested the election of William Elliott (white) to the Fifty-first Congress and served from September 24, 1890, to March 3, 1891;

Baltimore, Md.

He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1890 to the Fifty-second Congress; elected a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1895;

Elected president of the State Colored College in Orangeburg, S.C., and served from 1896 to 1911, when he retired.

He resides in Philadelphia, Pa.

Our Congressmen

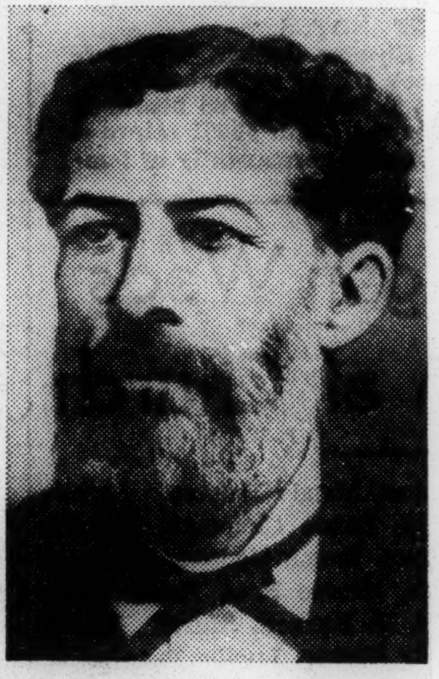
Afro American 10-16-37

The Hon. John Mercer Langston

(1829 1897)

By ARTHUR J. SMITH

(ED. NOTE: This is the twentieth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author Arthur J. Smith of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)



JOHN MERCER LANGSTON

Born in Louisa, Louisa County, Va., December 14, 1829; attended the common schools in Ohio, and graduted from the literary department of Oberlin College in 1849, and from the theological department in 1852.

Baltimore

He studied law in Elyria, Ohio, assisted in recruiting colored men in the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Regiments during the Civil War.

Appointed inspector-general of the Bureau of Freedmen, Refugees, and Abandoned Lands in 1868. Practiced law in Washington, D.C., dean of the law department of Howard University, 1869-1876; commissioned by President Grant, a member of the board of health of the District of Columbia in 1871.

Elected vice president and acting president of Howard University in 1872. Appointed by President Hayes minister resident and consul general to Haiti, and charge d'affaires to Santo Domingo, September 28, 1877.

Elected president of the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, Petersburg, Va., in 1885. Successfully contested as a Republican the election of Edward C. Venable, white, to the Fifty-first Congress, and served from September 23, 1890 to March 3, 1891; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1890 to the Fifty-second Congress.

Died in Washington, D.C., November 15, 1897. Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery. He was the first and only colored Representative from Virginia elected to Congress, and the only colored man who was a Congressman and a foreign diplomat.

Historical.

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

OUR CONGRESSMAN

THE HON. JEREMIAH HARALSON.

Born on a planation, near Columbus, Muscogee County, Ga, April 1, 1846, self-educated; moved to Alabama, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, became a minister.

Elected a member of the State House of Representatives in 1870; elected to the State Senate in 1872; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1868 to the Forty-first Congress.

Elected as a Republican to the Forty-first Congress and served from March 4, 1875, to March 3, 1877; afterwards he resigned.

Appointed U.S. Custom inspector in Baltimore, 1878, and served until 1882, when he resigned, and was appointed as a clerk in the Interior Department, Washington, and later to the Pension Bureau, Washington, until his resignation August 21, 1884.

Moved to Louisiana, thence to Arkansas, in 1904; moved to Alabama again and settled in Selma in 1912; moved to Texas and later to Oklahoma and Colorado, and engaged in coal-mining in the latter State; killed by wild beasts near Denver, Colorado in 1916.

While serving his term in Congress, he was present to vote on the admission of Colorado into Statehood in 1876.

Afro-American
October 30, 1937
Baltimore, Md.

D. C. MAN SPENT 35 YEARS IN U. S. CONSULAR SERVICE

Afro American

10-30-37

Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON

A varied and interesting career is that of William H. Hunt, 68, retired U.S. Foreign Service officer, now serving as vocational adviser of the Twelfth Street YMCA here.

Mr. Hunt, who resides at 1015 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest, was retired in 1932, after having served for thirty-five years in the foreign service.

He was U.S. consul to Madagascar, 1898-1907; St. Etiennes, France, 1907-1927; Guadalupe, French West Indies, 1928-29; St. Michaels, Azores, Portugal, 1930; and consul and second secretary of the legation at Monrovia, Liberia, 1930-32.

Soldier of Fortune

Before entering government service, Mr. Hunt was a soldier of fortune, working in turn as bellhop, pockey and Pullman porter, and making a round-the-world trip in the employ of a wealthy young white man.

Born at Hunt's Station, Tenn., in 1869, young Hunt was forced to stop school at the age of 10 to support his widowed mother. The family, including three boys of whom William was the oldest, and three girls older than himself, had then moved to Nashville.

At the suggestion of one of the girls, part of the family later moved to St. Louis, where the mother died.

Returned to School

With his white employer, Mr. Hunt visited many points of world interest in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. At the suggestion of his employer, he returned to school, entering Lawrence Academy in Groton, Mass.

After graduation, he enrolled in Williams College, but later dropped out and joined Isaac Murphy as a jockey.

Through Ida Gibbs, daughter of Judge M. W. Gibbs of Little Rock, Ark., whom he met in St. Paul, he obtained a job as secretary for her father on the judge's appointment to the Madagascar consulate.

Appointed by McKinley

Hunt quickly rose to the offices of clerk and vice-consul, and became consul when Gibbs resigned. His commission was signed by President McKinley shortly before the latter's death in 1901.

While in Madagascar, he was elected correspondent of the National Geographical Society of New York.

In 1904, Hunt was married to Miss Gibbs in Washington by the recently deceased Rev. F. J. Grimke. There are no children.

Mrs. Hunt's sister is Mrs. Harriet Gibbs Marshall, president of the Washington Conservatory of Music.

Mr. Hunt, who speaks, Spanish, French and Portuguese, is now writing memoirs of his unusual career.

Our Congressmen

The Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell

(1886—)

Afro-American

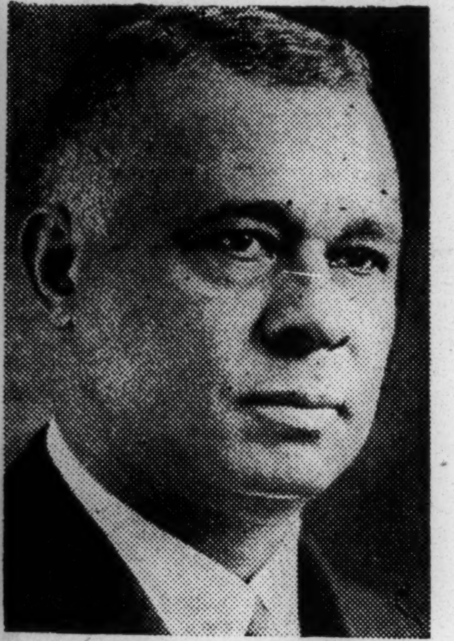
By ARTHUR J. SMITH

11-20-37

(ED. NOTE: This is the twenty-fourth of a series of twenty-four brief biographies of the lives of Congressmen. The author, Arthur J. Smith of 1724 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., offers the public the entire series, with individual biographies on separate cards. The sets are priced at fifty cents.)

Baltimore Md.

Born on a farm in Randolph County, Ala., Dec. 22, 1886; attended the public schools until fourteen years of age, later attended Tuskegee Institute; taught in the public schools of Georgia and Alabama; attended Talladega College, Talladega, Ala., and Harvard and Columbia Universities;



Arthur W. Mitchell

Established the Armstrong Agriculture College and served for ten years as president, without salary; studied law, was admitted to the bar and practiced in Washington, D.C.; moved to Chicago in 1928 and continued the practice of law.

He was nominated and elected as a new deal Democrat to the Seventy-fourth Congress, Nov. 6, 1934, and re-elected to the Seventy-fifth Congress, Nov. 3, 1936, with term beginning Jan. 3, 1935, to Jan. 3, 1939.

He has the distinction of being the first colored person ever elected to the Congress of the U.S. as a Democrat, and the second colored man elected to Congress from a Northern State, or North of the Mason and Dixon line.

Coincidently, both colored men that were elected to Congress from the State of Illinois are natives of Alabama; both live in the same Congressional District (First) of their adopted city and State; incidentally one is a Republican, the other a Democrat; each one served more than one term in Congress. Mr. DePriest served three terms in succession. Mr. Mitchell is serving his second.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.
6

Illinois.

Name Former Chicagoan As Alton Justice

Defender
5-15-37

ALTON, Ill., May 7—For the first time in its history, this city of some 30,000 inhabitants, elected a member of the Race to a public office, Bernard McGuim, former Chicagoan, was, named justice of the peace.

Chicago Ill.

Whil living in Chicago, McGuin attended public schools there. He served on the Mexican border and in France with the Eighth Regiment. Later he entered the real estate business with his father in 1927. He became the secretary to James G. Cotter, then Assistant U. S. District Attorney. In 1931, McGuin moved to Alton and entered business.

During his residence here, the new justice of the peace became a leader in politics and his prestige was confirmed on April 6 when he carried every ward in the city and received the third highest vote of any candidate running for the office.

Race citizens regard the election of McGuin as an achievement that will add much to the history of the Race's progress here and are preparing impressive ceremonies in connection with his inauguration. McGuin's father, James B. McGuin, lives in Chicago at 4608 Cottage Grove avenue.

S-W-E-L-L

The Afro-American Discovers

By JOHN JASPER

Visitors returning from Washingto are invariably aske "How's Congressma Arthur Mitchell getting on?"

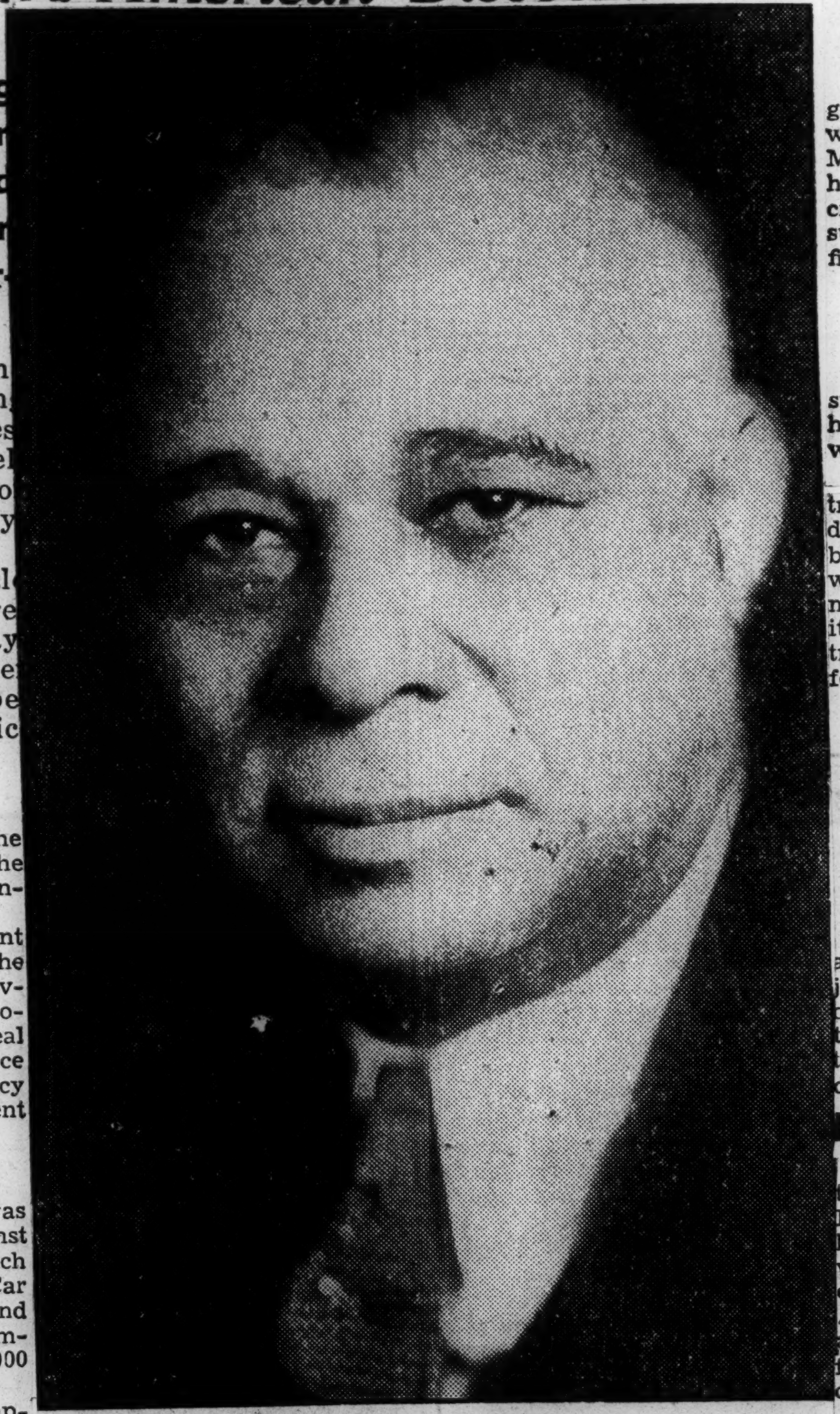
Afro American

Down in Room 141 of th old House office buildin across from the Congressional Library, Mr. Mitche answered that question fo the AFRO on Wednesday His answer was "swell."

5-22-37

Sitting at his desk a littl past noon, with his correspondence out of the way two secretaries in the oute room thumping their typewriters, he looked the picture of health.

Baltimore Md.



CONGRESSMAN MITCHELL

His C.C.C. Vote

He'd been over to answer the roll call and vote to give the CCC camps two more years instead of a permanent status.

Making the CCC permanent would have meant putting the personnel under the Civil Service, he explained, and our people do not get a square deal there. We stand a better chance with the CCC as an emergency body conducted by President Roosevelt.

That $50,000 Suit

The big news of last week was the Congressman's suit against the Rock Island Railroad, which ejected him from a Pullman Car in Arkansas a month ago and compelled him to ride in a jimcrow coach. He's asking $50,000 damages.

"I have two of Chicago's scrappiest lawyers. A clean case of violation of the Federal statutes, the case is to be heard in Chicago, where the courts usually frown on such discrimination due to racial prejudice, and I am not seeking a compromise."

Mr. Mitchell was en route to Hot Springs, Arkansas, to take the baths when he was rudely ejected from the Pullman, called harsh names, and threatened with arrest.

Under Federal law, a Congressman may not be imprisoned while Congress is in session. Mr. Mitchell wasn't arrested because he left the car and rode jim crow for 150 miles. He kept his suit a secret until it was actually filed.

Baggage Rode Pullman

Strangely enough, his three suitcases were not removed with him. They rode Pullman all the way to Hot Springs.

Mr. Mitchell kept his round-trip and Pullman tickets as evidence and returned to Chicago by way of the Missouri Pacific, which not only sold him Pullman accommodations but sent its passenger agent aboard the train to see that he was comfortable.

Segregation of inter-State passengers on railroads as practiced in all Southern States is, of course, illegal. The Hart case in Maryland settled that many years ago, but most Southern States still do it because no one has challenged them.

Mr. Mitchell sees in his suit a chance to hit this railroad jim crow a body blow. Using his office as Congressman to fight this evil, he thinks it is one of the most important things he can do for his own people.

Banquets and Dinners

While he travels over the country making speeches, as he did in New Jersey recently, in which he asked his audience why their white Congressman had appointed no cadets to West Point or Annapolis, he dislikes banquets and keeps his eye peeled on affairs most vital to his Chicago constituents.

It was for this reason that he turned down an appointment to the District of Co-

lumbia Committee in Congress to serve on the Postoffice Committee. Nearly 2,000 colored Chicagoans are in the postal service.

Of the twenty-five Congressmen, Mr. Mitchell stands ninth. He is chairman of the subcommittee on foreign mails and ranks next to the chairman on the sub-committee on Special Postal Services and the subcommittee on Offenses Against the Postal Service.

2 More for Navy

Mr. Mitchell isn't disappointed because of his eight colored appointees to Annapolis and to West Point, none have been able to stick. He points out that of DePriest's eighteen, only one graduated. He recently named two more candidates to the Naval Academy, one of whom has been accepted without examination and the other awaits only a physical test. "Everybody will know these boys are colored," he says, "and they'll fight to make good."

CONGRESSMAN MITCHELL TELLS

(1) How he voted on the CCC.

(2) What he hopes to do with his $50,000 suit against the Rock Island Railroad.

(3) Where he ranks on the P. O. Committee.

(4) How Texas's Sumner was defeated on anti-lynch bill.

(5) Why his new Naval Academy appointees will be harder to fool.

(6) What Congressman Chicago voters will elect in 1938

The Johnson case, in which Mr. Mitchell's appointee was dismissed from Annapolis for deficiency in English, has given the Chicago Congressman expert knowledge of the Naval Academy tricks. He thinks his new candidates will be harder to fool.

The Congressman said he is looking for two candidates for West Point and hopes to find them soon. He has appointed two colored for every white cadet he has named to the military schools.

Defeat of Sumners

Although his antilynching bill did not pass the House, Mr. Mitchell had the satisfaction of having it favorably reported by the Committee on Judiciary.

H. W. Sumners, Texas committee chairman, had stated publicly that he would not report any antilynching measure. When the time came to vote, Sumners and his friends were defeated on seven different motions to kill the bill.

So it was approved and went to the House with a minority report written by Sumners himself. Mr. Mitchell says this is the first time to his knowledge that a House committee chairman has been so soundly rebuked by his own committee.

Mr. Mitchell's bill to reform the Civil Service, he said, may not be reached this session.

He is, however, working on another important bill which he hopes to have ready for this Congress.

3rd Term Certain

Altogether, the Chicago Congressman not only looks fit, but looks the part of a successful legislator.

As for 1938, Mr. Mitchell says the election is already in the bag. He's beaten DePriest twice, and, on his record in Congress, Chicagoans will certainly send him back for a third term, and a fourth one, too, if he wants it.

U. S. POST TO 'DAVID LEWIS'

Defender

5-29-37

At the instance of Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Joseph Geary, president of the Civil Service Commission, David Lewis, 5025 South Parkway, was appointed deputy United States Marshal for the northern district of Illinois.

In speaking of this appointment In speaking of th commissioner Geary said that he was proud of having the mayor's aid in securing this important position for the Fourth Ward organization. He said David Lewis was a man of exceptional character, unusual ability and would bring distinction to the organization and good service to the marshal's office.

David Lewis

White Daily Bemoans Franking Privilege Of Congressman Mitchell

Journal and Guide

6-5-37

Norfolk Va.

RALEIGH, N. C. —(ANP) — Speaking editorially, the News and Observer, leading white daily of this city, recently bemoaned Congressman Mitchell's widesperad use of the free "franking" privilege which permits Congressmen to send official letters through the mails without payment of postage.

Under the title "Speeches," the News and Observe, observes:

Even in the golden age of franking, this seems to be something of a record ofr one day's mailing of Congressional Record reprints to one newspaper office from one member of Congress:

Item 1—"The Democratic Party and the Negro. Speech of Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois in the House of Representatives."

Item 2—"Booker T. Washington's Life a Legacy for the Nation. Speech of Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois in the House of Representatives."

Item 3—"Necessity for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law. Radio address by Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois."

Item 4—"Democrats Join Republican in Killing Anti-Lynching Bill which Might Prove Disastrous. Speech of Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois in the House of Representatives."

Item 5—"The New Deal. Speech of Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois in the House of Representatives."

Item 6—"The Republican Party Fails the Negro. Speech of Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois in the House of Representatives."

For biographical purposes Arthur W. Mitchell is a Negro, a native of Alabama, former lawyer and real estate operator in Washington, D. C., now successor to Oscar DePriest in the House of Representatives from Illinois.

DAILY SAYS VISIT WILL DO NO GOOD

Call

'Can't Change Social Status Of 800,000 Negro Texans,' Editorial

10-1-37

Kansas City Mo.

PORT ARTHUR, Texas. —(ANP)—Rep. Arthur W. Mitchell of Chicago, now on a "good will tour" of the South, will do more harm than good if he speaks in Texas and is definitely not wanted in the Lone Star state, if the Port Arthur News, local daily newspaper, is any criterion.

In an editorial published Tuesday under the heading "Mitchell Visit Unneeded," the paper said:

"Arthur Mitchell, the Negro congressman from Chicago's harlem district, is coming to the south, and to Texas, to 'study conditions' among Negroes.

"His visit will do no good, and may do considerable harm to his race.

He is a politician, thrown up by the circumstances of a predominant Negro population in a big city. Texas has dozens of Negroes, citizens, leaders in racial betterment, such as educators in colleges at Austin and Prairie View, who can do definitely more good in visiting the Negroes and studying their conditions than can Mitchell. The presence of this federal office-holder will tend to agitate and provoke a spirit among his people that would recreate racial friction.

"In general, Negroes are better in Texas than they do in Chicago. Many a black has migrated to the north or east, only to long to be back where his relations are defined and understood, where he has sympathetic and considerate surroundings for the very reason that he is not thrown into those relations and contacts that stir strife.

"Mitchell can't change the social status of 800,000 Negroes in Texas. All the effort to improve their economic and educational well-being that reasonably can be made is being made by the state and its people. The Chicago congressman can contribute nothing to that. His people must look to its best leadership in this state, rather than to an office-holding brother, for example and inspiration."

Illinois.

Political - 1937
Office Holding

Defender
7-24-37

Roy Wilkins, Columnist and Editor, Rakes Congressman Mitchell Over The Coals for "Stiff-Necked Puffery"

(Editor's Note—We print the following article verbatim from the New York Amsterdam News, for which Mr. Wilkins is a regular columnist.)

Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell seems to have positive genius for putting his foot in his mouth in his dealings with the press. The list of foolish mistakes the Congressman from Illinois has made since the very day when the returns were counted is a very long one, but undoubtedly the most foolish on the list are his numerous clashes with the press.

Mr. Mitchell, whose name was practically unknown to editors before he defeated Oscar DePriest, with the help of a Roosevelt-New Deal landslide, has hardly opened his mouth once without rubbing the newsmen the wrong way. He seems utterly incapable of assuming the role of a public man. He remains always the little, narrow election accident strutting around in shoes too big for him and handing out statements worthy of a neighborhood curbstone ranter.

Shortly after he got to Washington he clashed with a photographer from the Afro-American and made an effort to smash his camera. He took several Negro newspapermen into his office and lectured them like schoolboys, telling them they would print what he told them or else he would "not cooperate" with them. Although they, and not he, needed the cooperation.

Now he refuses to make a statement for the Amsterdam News, claiming New York's largest Negro paper "has not played fair with him." He resents the fact that the Amsterdam News criticized him for his partnership with Hatton W. Sumners of Texas (Mitchell says Sumners is his friend) in their joint efforts to block the Gavagan anti-lynching bill by using the Mitchell bill as soft soap for Negroes.

Washington Tribune

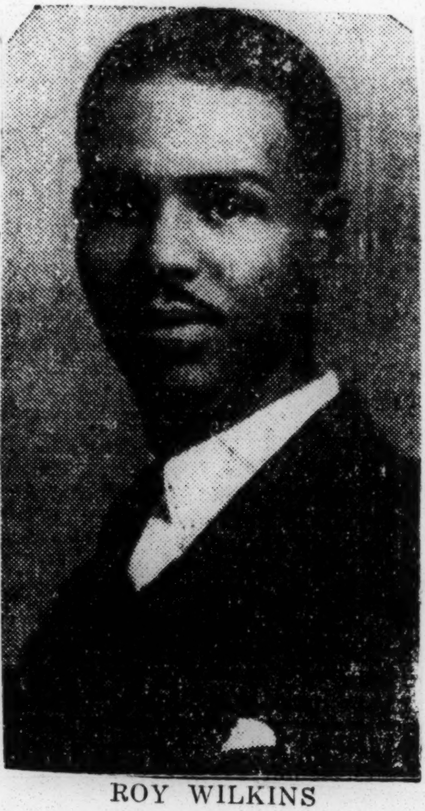
He Waxes Loquacious With White Papers

But Mr. Mitchell did not refuse to make a statement for the daily papers and news associations. He talked freely to them about the resignation of George J. Trivers, colored cadet, from the Naval Academy at Annapolis. And the dailies have not been too kindly toward Mr. Mitchell. They do not carry his picture. They don't splatter his every word across their pages. He sees nothing of human interest material about himself and his works in their columns. But his own papers, who treat him as nicely as he will let them, who assume he is a public man in a public job, whose actions and statements are properly subject to appraisal, praise and criticism, are to be penalized. The Congressman from Illinois has been very long on personal bickering since he went to Congress and very short on statesmanship.

His record on the anti-lynching bill is pitiful when compared to that of a half-dozen white men in Congress whose people are not hanged, shot and burned alive by mobs.

His suit against a railroad for ordering him out of a Pullman car into a jim-crow coach when he had tickets calling for Pullman accommodations sounded big at first, but he spoiled it all by giving a statement quoted in the New York Times, declaring that he was not against jim-crow cars, but only "dirty" jim-crow cars.

He has appointed young Negroes to Annapolis and West Point, but when James L. Johnson was railroaded out of Annapolis and everyone knew he had been kicked out because he was colored, Mitchell promised to carry the fight to the floor of the House, but did nothing beyond conferring with Navy Department officials and President Roosevelt. Some of the papers thought he would use the Trivers resignation for a floor fight, but he has announced (in the white daily papers) that Trivers resigned because he found out he could not do the work of a midshipman. Presumably that is the end of the Trivers case. But the question arises: since Mitchell knows how important it is to have super-excellent Negroes appointed to these academies, why in heaven's name was not Trivers' alleged inability to do the work at the academy ascertained before his appointment?


ROY WILKINS

Sponsors One Bill Worthy of Support

Besides appointing Negroes to the Naval and Military Academies, Mr. Mitchell has sponsored a bill to get rid of the photographs in civil service, and this bill, as I have written before, deserves wholehearted support from every section of the country. In this move the gentleman from Illinois is on sound ground and, if he is successful, will benefit thousands of Negro citizens.

Of course, in a democracy there is no guarantee that the best man always will be elected to office. There are plenty of white men in Congress who would be doing better work back home. It was to be expected, I suppose, that our race would draw a few blanks, too, in electing men to Congress. The trouble is that we cannot afford many mistakes in personnel. We are on the spot. Mr. Mitchell announced at the very outset he was not a "Negro" Congressman, but the Congressman of the first district of Illinois. This is a commendable attitude to have, and in the sweet bye-and-bye, when politics are a little more ideal than they are now and when racial attitudes have undergone further changes, it is to be hoped that a Negro may be simply a representative from a certain district. In the meantime, however, Mr. Mitchell cannot escape the badge of his race.

Would Do Self Favor Climbing Down From Horse

He should try to wear that badge with dignity—with human, reasonable dignity—not with stiff-necked puffery. The boys of the press will give him more than his due if he will climb down off his horse and cease being a boiled stuffed shirt. And the colored people of the country will cease their prayers that the voters of the first district in Illinois come alive in the next election and keep Mitchell at home.

[The Washington Tribune must contend with the same lack of cooperation from the Congressman. He refuses to give a statement to the Tribune concerning anything whatever.—Editor.]

Commercial Appeal
9-28-37

ME AND PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

To The Commercial Appeal:

The Northern press states that the Democratic negro congressman, Mitchell, will leave Sept. 14 for a good-will tour of the Southern states, to see how whites and blacks get along together. Mitchell likens his prospective tour to President Roosevelt's "good neighbor trip" to South America last year.

A recent Congressional Record quotes Mitchell as saying in an account of his stewardship that, among numerous other activities: "I have spoken over the radio several times, and probably one of the best speeches ever delivered over the radio at any time was my speech on the anti-lynching bill, which was made April 5." He likewise emphasizes "my high type of statesmanship, intelligent approach, and wise and careful handling of the affairs of my office."

Some months ago in a speech on the floor of Congress, this political prodigy stated that he should devote his life to securing the ballot for his Southern brethren. Verily he has embarked on an ambitious career of vast potentialities—some of them, possibly, not so healthy for the embarker.

MRS. THOMAS ST. V. WARD.
Way, Miss.

Montgomery, Ala. Journal
October 8, 1937

Only Negro Congressman

The editor of this newspaper received a letter several days ago from Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, America's only negro congressman, who represents the first Illinois district, the richest district in the United States. Congressman Mitchell paid the Sun a visit last Saturday morning and told of some of his early experiences as a resident of Chambers county just north of the Wilson home at Chapel Hill. He made a trip to that section and as he says, "I saw some of the ditches I dug there years ago." A very interesting character, an able leader of his race and the first negro democrat to ever sit in the national house of representatives. He defeated the republican, Oscar DePriest, the first of his race to be elected to the lower house. Back in Alabama and other states of the south he is on a good will tour, studying first hand the problems which confront his race. He says the south offers best opportunities for the negro to work out his own salvation and through the democratic party is his brightest hope for better standards of living. His visit home and the south should result in much good to the cause of his own race as well as all others.—LaFayette Sun.

MITCHELL IN SOUTHWEST ON TOUR

Daily World

Heard By Chambers Of Commerce Of Both Groups

SOUNDS WARNING

10-16-37

MARSHALL, Tex.—(SNS)—Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of the First Illinois District which includes the famous Chicago loop area spent two days in Texas last week as part of a goodwill tour which he was making through the

South. He was the guest of President Do[illegible] Wiley College, Marshall, Texas during his short stay in the state. Mr. Mitchell talked informally to a group of the Harrison County Negro Chamber of Commerce in the Seminar Room, Wiley College, Carnegie Library on Wednesday night, addressed a luncheon conference of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce in the conference room, Moorland Branch YMCA, Thursday noon. He was introduced by A. Maceo Smith, secretary of the Chamber. He spoke to an audience of 500 students, teachers and friends of Wiley in the college chapel on Thursday evening. Whilei n Marshall he visited the Resettlement Project for Negroes of Harrison and Penola Counties and conferred with the secretary of the White Chamber of Commerce at Marshall.

The purpose of his tour, as he stated, was to get first hand information on conditions as they affect the Negro in particular and the people in general. In his talks before the Chambers of Commerce he stressed the importance of building sentiment locally among the people in power for improvement of conditions with respect to the Negro. He asserted that with the proper approach and technique it is possible to reach people on any question. His sane and sober attitude on questions involved impressed his hearers that he is a man with a statesmanlike view. In answering the many questions put to him on problems facing Negroes as well as other peoples of the world his approach was always that of the realist. He said you cannot ignore facts: the only way to deal with any problem is to recognize and admit facts and then deal with them in an honest common sense way.

Mr. Mitchell is a firm believer and supporter of the President and the New Deal. He does not believe in blind allegiance and certainly he says the Negro ought to prepare as far as practicable for the highest status of citizenship regardless of whether the opportunities for service are immediately at hand or not. Doubtless many people have been more favorably impressed with the Congressman by these personal contacts with him. He is very convincing in his reasoning on problems of whatever nature, and appears to have a broad understanding of present day problems.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 1, 1937

THIS MORNING

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES, II

"He floats through the air
With the greatest of ease
That daring young man on the
flying trapeze."

* * *

AT CHEYENNE the president told his audience, "I do not want to coast and the nation does not want me to coast." That is true, but a nation whose great majority is still obviously his, does not want him to do any trapeze flying either and has come to look upon his continued demand for his Supreme Court reform measure as meaningless and dangerous athletics. He has a Supreme Court today through which he can hope to pass all the legislation which his best friends and the country's best friends feel is proper and right to be passed. He has won a great victory—whether by circumstance or pressure or persuasion—and if he really believes it a victory for the people as well as for himself he will not turn it into a defeat by fatiguing his followers with battle against thin air.

* * *

With pride of possession we open October's number of The Readers Digest and find there, under title "The Land of the Living Dead," a condensation of the vivid chapters on Devil's Island from the book called "Sailing South American Skies" whose author is James Saxon (Jimmie to us) Childers.

* * *

Alabama - born Arthur W. Mitchell, of Chicago, who is the only Negro in Congress, is the best Negro that ever was in Congress. Because he is both a realist and an optimist about his race he is serving that race as no chip-on-the-shoulder sentimental theorist ever can. After a tour of the South which included his visit yesterday to Birmingham he reports "nothing discouraging towards improved racial relations." On the contrary he finds a "desire on the part of both white and Negro leaders to get along together" with a continually more tolerant attitude toward the Negro evinced by the better class of whites. In North Carolina, especially, he finds "the greatest liberality toward the Negro."

Greensboro, N. C., Record
October 1, 1937

Racial Relationships.

Arthur W. Mitchell, Chicago negro Democrat and representative of the first Illinois congressional district, has recently visited parts of several southern states to study, first hand, the economic status of his race and "to see what's being done toward a better understanding between the white and negro people" in the south.

While in North Carolina he spoke in Winston-Salem and Gastonia and was cordially received by members of both races. In winding up his southern itinerary in Atlanta, Representative Mitchell, who, obviously, is disposed to take a factual view of conditions, said he had seen "nothing discouraging toward improved racial relations in the south," and, further, he observed that occasional outcroppings of bitterness toward the negro are the exception, not the rule, in the south today.

This report, which seems to be a fairly accurate summary of racial relations in the south, is not particularly encouraging; yet, conditions might easily be much worse. It seems almost inevitable in the south, as in other countries where two or more races inhabit the same region, that there will be a certain amount of racial friction. It is encouraging, however, that there is less racial friction now than during some other periods of southern history.

The very fact that Representative Mitchell came to the south in friendly and tolerant mood rather than in critical and antagonistic spirit speaks well for his understanding of a delicate and intricate problem.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
September 28, 1937

NEGRO CONGRESS MEMBER HERE

Illinois Congressman On Tour Of State, Will Speak In City

Arthur W. Mitchell, Negro congressman from Illinois, scheduled to speak in Birmingham Thursday night, stopped in the city Monday night while on a tour of the state. Already he has visited his boyhood home in Chambers County, near LaFayette and Tuskegee Institute.

Congressman Mitchell came here from Tuskegee, where he spoke Monday morning. He said he expects to visit several other Alabama towns before returning to address an assembly in the Municipal Auditorium, at 8 p.m. Thursday under auspices of the Jefferson County Negro Democratic Club.

The Negro congressman, on an extension good-will tour of Southern states, will go to Montgomery to appear before a group of Negro physicians, teachers and business men.

While in Birmingham he was the guest of his brother, John Mitchell, social worker.

Congressman Mitchell asserted Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black "has been courageous to the last degree," adding that he is "an honest man." He said charges that the former senator has had Ku Klux Klan affiliations have been made by "political enemies who were merely seeking something for which to indict him and did not care particularly whether it was the klan issue or something else."

Moundville, Ala. News
October 7, 1937

AMERICA'S ONLY NEGRO CONGRESSMAN

(From LaFayette Sun)

The Editor of this newspaper received a letter several days ago from Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell. America's only negro congressman, who represents the First Illinois District the richest district in the Unite States.

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Back in Alabama and other states of the South he is on a good will tour, studying first hand the problems which confront his race. He says the South offers best opportunities for the negro to work out his own salvation and through the Democratic party is his brightest hope for better standards of living. His visit home and the South should result in much good to the cause of his own race as well as all others.

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

Illinois.

"SOME OLD CUSSES Won't Stop Fighting"

Congressman Mitchell Quotes President's Views of Antilynch Bill Opponents

NEW YORK—Vigorously defending President Roosevelt's view on the question of lynching, Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois, quoted the Chief Executive as saying to him in a recent conference on the matter:

"Some of these old cusses (referring to Southern die-hards, who have continued to bitterly fight any type of Federal anti-lynch legislation) won't stop fighting until they die, and I thank God they are dying rather rapidly."

F. D. Okey, He Says

"You need never give yourselves any uneasiness about how the President feels on this kind of legislation," Mitchell went on, "I know you feel that he doesn't always speak out when you think he ought to, but many of you speak when it would have been better for you to have kept quiet."

In his first speech here this year, Mr. Mitchell told 600 listeners who heard him at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, corner Seventh Avenue and 128th Street, that the Federal anti-lynching bill would pass during this session of Congress.

The Congressman who returned last week from the bedside of his son, a patient in a Chicago mental hospital, spoke on "Legislation Before the Congress Which Deal Directly with Our Racial Group."

Raps NAACP

Without mentioning the organization by name, Mitchell administered a verbal slap to the NAACP when he said:

"We have a certain organization in this country that calls itself an uplift organization that has never endorsed any bill that I have introduced in Congress, because I reserve the right to think for myself, without taking orders from outsiders. This organization does not back anything unless it follows its own type of program."

He reviewed briefly several bills and activities he has sponsored. These include his own antilynching measure which he said he introduced just nineteen days after he had been sworn in as Congressman; his bill to get Federal aid for Matthew Henson, who accompanied Peary to the North Pole;

The Southern Bill introduced by the late Senator Robinson, which sought to give an honorable discharge to a white Southerner who was court-martialed in France for killing a colored soldier (Mr. Mitchell had it killed); his Civil Service Bill, which seeks to make it mandatory for the appointing officer to employ the person making the highest grade instead of choosing from the three highest;

And his petition to the Interstate Commerce Commission to force the Rock Island Railroad which he is suing for $50,000 to give equal accommodations to colored first-class passengers.

Praises AFRO

Mr. Mitchell praised Fred Moore, New York editor, for his help in urging concrete recognition for Matthew Henson, and the AFRO-AMERICAN, which urged him to use his influence to kill the Southern Bill.

The Southern Bill, re-introduced in the Senate by Hattie Caraway of Arkansas, was passed, and is now before the House Military Affairs Committee.

"I expect to defeat it again, when it comes up on the floor of the House," Mitchell added.

His bill to aid Henson passed the House, he said, but went down in the Senate, "because the Congressman from Henson's district in New York didn't remind the New York Senator to bring it out."

Raps White Congressmen

"I want you people to stop being chumps by supporting white people for office, who don't support you after they get in," he urged.

"Why do you have to send to me to get a colored boy to go to West Point or the Naval Academy? Have you ever asked any of your own Congressmen, who can do the same thing? What do they say? If they don't say anything, then you should say something when they come up for re-election.

"You can't send a boy to West Point or any place, unless I send him, and yet you allow these holier-than-thou gentlemen to tell you that they are fighting for you down in Congress.

"I don't want to be too hard on the first boy I sent to the Naval Academy, but if he had done what he promised me he would do, he would still be there because the President was with me on this.

Roosevelt Was Angry

"The President was so mad that he banged his fist on the desk when he found out that the boy had resigned without consulting me. If he had not resigned, then the President would have to sign any order to get him out, as he had the rank of a petty officer.

"As it was it was left in the hands of a Southerner named Swanson, who, as Secretary of the Navy, was glad to sign his resignation because Swanson, who comes from Virginia, doesn't like colored people.

"The second boy I sent to the Naval Academy didn't have enough grit. He stayed only two weeks. And it takes grit to stay there. Remember it is one against 2,300 white boys.

Dodge Naval School

"Do you know that not a single colored boy in the United States has asked me to send him to the Naval Academy? It looks like they try to duck it. A few have asked to be sent to West Point. The fact is that all the boys that I have sent either to West Point or the Naval Academy have been boys whom I persuaded to go.

"I wish I could find a thoroughbred boy who would show those whites down at the Naval Academy that he can do a job as well as they can, just as I have shown them in Congress.

"We've got a colored boy at West Point now, who, if I am any judge of men, is going to make it and do well. He wrote me recently.:

" 'It's hard as hell up here, but it is hard for white boys too, and if they can stand it, I can too.'

Paying Goodwill Expense

"I had no arrangement with your pastor, my good friend, the Rev. Abner Brown, about having my way paid up here, or receiving something for making this speech. I did here, what I did on my goodwill tour.

"I paid my expenses out of my own pocket. I paid $600 for that goodwill tour out of my own pocket. And that's what you've got to demand of your leaders now, to go out and work."

MITCHELL TALK DRAWS CROWD

2-4-37

New York

Declaring "I think there is no question about the passing of the anti-lynching bill," Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Chicago assured a large audience in Metropolitan Baptist Church, Sunday, that the bill will be enacted into law, as it was known that the opponents of the measure could muster only twenty-six votes, while its backers have at least fifty votes to pass the measure.

President Roosevelt was brought into Sunday's speech when Congressman Mitchell said that since he has been a member of Congress he has discussed various matters affecting the Negro with the President about twenty-six times. He has always found the President behind every piece of legislation or proposal which was intended to improve the condition of the Negro.

Quoting Mr. Roosevelt on the people who would dam the tide of progressive legislation, the congressman said the President had told him that the "trouble is that there can be changed only by death," and that every now and then some of them die. The President feels, according to Mr. Mitchell, that the salvation of the nation lies in the hands of the younger generation.

In a conversation with Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania on the fate of the bill in the Senate, Mr. Mitchell quoted the senator as saying, "we are going to let them (the opponents of the bill) spend their energies and when they get through, we are going to pass the bill."

"The troubles we have today do not come from without; they come from within. Nine-tenths of the things we complain about lie at our own door," the congressman added.

Mr. Mitchell gave an indication of the policy he and the race, as a minority, must pursue when he said, "I believe that as individuals need friends, races need friends. That is why I made a goodwill tour of the South last summer."

Discusses Problems.

Speaking on "Legislation Before the Congress," which deals with problems affecting the Negro, Congressman Mitchell explained four bills he introduced into the House and his complaint before the Interstate Commerce Commission against the Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company, the Illinois Central Railway Company, and the Pullman Company for discrimination against him while traveling to and from Hot Springs, Ark., on April 20.

Of his bill H. R. 12388, "To provide for the recognition of the heroic conduct and devotion to duty of Matthew A. Henson, one of the survivors of the polar expedition of Admiral Peary, and to provide a life pension for the said Matthew A. Henson," the congressman said, "Henson was really the discoverer of the North Pole. Peary was made and admiral and retired with a fine pay, but Henson got nothing, only a miserly job and to retire on a small pension.

"Introduction of the Henson bill aroused the anger of a senator from New York, whose name was not mentioned by Mr. Mitchell. But the congressman did say that the senator in question asked him what right he had "to interfere in matters in the State of New York."

"I told him I had no right to interfere, but that I had been urged to take action by New York citizens. I told him that I would be glad to show him the letters on file in my office and he accompanied me, in the hope, I believe, that I would not be able produce them. But the first one I took up came from Fred R. Moore. The senator said nothing more."

Testify for Bill.

When the bill was introduced in Congress, April 20, 1936, J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the Elks; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of Howard University; Attorney John Clifford Hawkins, and Matt Henson testified in favor of the bill at the hearing, Congressman Mitchell said.

"The bill was passed without a dissenting vote in the House, but because your congressman was absent, when he discovered that the bill had passed the House, he became angry and it failed in the Senate because your senators and congressman did not support it in the upper house," the congressman declared.

Congressman Mitchell also discussed his civil service bill which was introduced into the House on January 24, 1936, requiring the President of the United States and the United States Civil Service Commission or any branch thereof to appoint candidates to the civil service who have passed with the highest grades in civil service examinations.

This bill was intended to make it unlawful for anyone to be discriminated against on account of race, or creed, as may be done at the present time without violation of any law or rule.

Discussing Harlem, Congressman Mitchell said, "I am interested in the welfare of the people of New York City, which is a part of this great country. If we are going to do anything for our people, or for any other people, we must be able to push excuses aside and go forward with our program.

"We have no strength to dissipate on each other. We should use it in the great march of economic and social progress," he added.

Mr. Mitchell's defeat of the Southern bill is considered one of his major achievements in the House. This bill, which was introduced in the Senate of the Seventy-fourth Congress by the late Senator Joseph T. Robinson of Arkansas, was designed to grant a free pardon and restore full citizenship rights to Benjamin H. Southern, white, a soldier who shot and killed a Negro soldier in France as a result of jealousy over the attentions of a French girl.

Fights Over Parolee.

Southern was tried by a court-martial and sentenced to eight years. He was paroled after serving one year, and in Senate Bill 823, Senator Robinson attempted to get an honorable discharge for the convicted murderer. Congressman Mitchell fought the measure in the House and defeated it although it had been passed in the Senate.

According to Mr. Mitchell, Senator Caraway of Arkansas has reintroduced the bill in the Senate and he hopes to defeat it again when it comes back to the House.

Mr. Mitchell spoke as the guest of the Rev. Abner Brown, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church. He was introduced by Dr. P. M. H. Savory.

"It is very unfortunate that our system of government is such that the people we vote for do not represent us as they should. It therefore becomes necessary for us to elect our own people to represent us in the law-making bodies in the nation, and I hope it will not be long before we in New York City shall have our own representatives in the Congress of the United States, as the other minority groups have," Dr. Savory declared in introducing Congressman Mitchell.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

Indiana.

DEPUTY CORONER OF INDIANAPOLIS

DR. EZRA D. ALEXANDER

INDIANAPOLIS. —Dr. Ezra D. Alexander, prominent physician, who was recently named deputy coroner in Indianapolis assumed his duties, long has been active in the community program, having been well in the force of all moves which make for the betterment of civic, political and social welfare.

Argus
1-21-37
St. Louis
Mo.

Political-1937
Office Holding.

Iowa

Oliver is Chosen Head Postmaster At Statehouse

Bystander
1-21-37

Atty. W. Lawrence Oliver, of 104' Thirteenth street has recently been appointed by the executive council as postmaster at the state house to succeed James W. Mitchell. Atty. Oliver who has worked at the state house for two years as mail carrier, was a member of the law class of 1934 of the University of Iowa, where he spent six years and also passed the Iowa state bar in the same year.

Oliver, active in the Democratic party, a member of the Roosevelt Democratic club and regional chairman of the Iowa Negro Democratic League, is the first Negro in Des Moines to be a member of the Polk county central committee. "I am a life long Democrat and have worked in several campaigns," Oliver stated recently. He is also a member of several social organizations, including the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, El Domingo and Just-A-Few clubs .

Mrs. Hazel E. Oliver, his wife, is also active in the Democratic party. They are the parents of twin children.

Political-1937
Office Holding.

Kansas.

Two Posts to Dr. G. Patton

Call
2-19-37
Kansas City Mo.

ATCHISON, Kas.—Upon Dr. G. A. Patton, prominent physician here, two honors have been bestowed this week.

He has been appointed assistant county physician by Dr. W. K. Fast, Atchison county health officer, to care for the ill among indigent Negroes of the county. The appointment, for two years, has been approved by the board of county commissioners.

The second honor came in Dr Patton's election to the vice-presidency of the Atchison County Medical society, composed of white and Negro physicians.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.
6

Liberia. — Africa.

LESTER WALTON. FIRST ENVOY TO LIBERIA GETS $10,000 A YEAR SALARY

Argus

1-22-37

St. Louis, Mo.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The question is sometimes raised as to who was the first to serve as American Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Hoover administration, all appointees sent to that post bore the title of Minister Resident and Consul General at a salary of $5,000 a year. President Coolidge made Dr. W. E. B. DuBois an honorary Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to represent the Government at the the second inauguration of President King. At the time Bishop Solomon Porter Hood was Minister Resident.

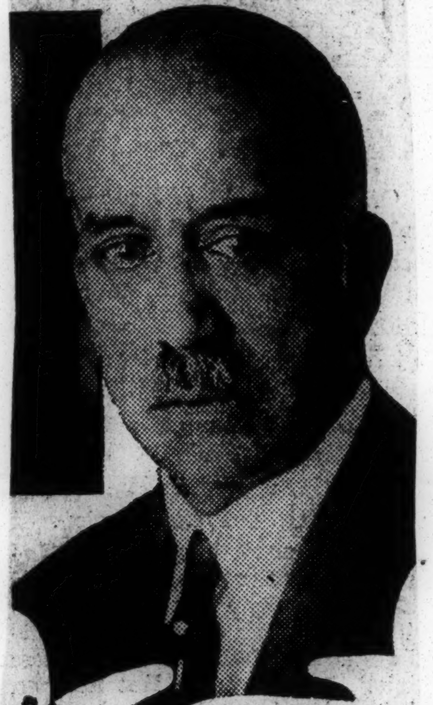
In the latter part of 1930. President Hoover made the late Charles E. Mitchell Minister Resident and Consul General, but no diplomatic relations existed between the United States and Liberia, and he never presented his credentials to President Barclay.

When the two Governments resumed normal diplomatic relations in June, 1934, President Roosevelt in July nominated Lester A. Walton as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at a salary of $10,000. Minister Walton presented his credentials in Monrovia the following October and is the first officially to represent fully his Government in that capacity.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.
6

Maryland

ON HOUSING AUTHORITY



Afro-American

GEORGE B. MURPHY, SR.

retired school principal, who was appointed by Mayor Jackson this week to a two-year term on the commission of five members which will supervise the expenditure of Federal funds under the Wagner-Steagall bill for low-cost housing and slum clearance. The act sets up a fund of $500,000,000 from which cities may borrow. Baltimore's share will probably be $5.000.000.

12-18-37

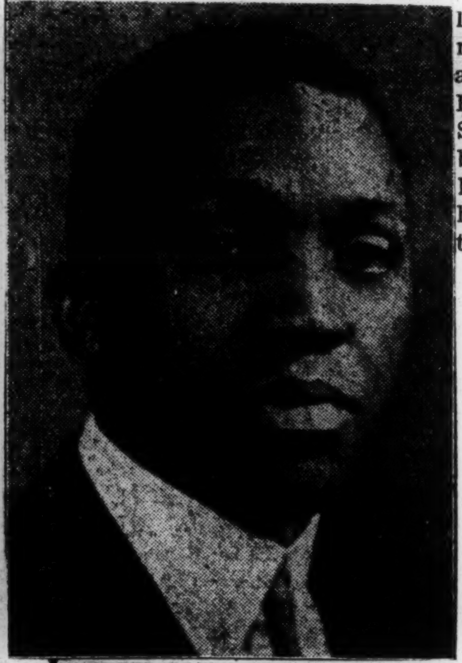
Baltimore, Md.

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

Massachusetts.

ON PAROLE BOARD



Dr. SILAS F. TAYLOR of Boston who was named last week by Governor Curley to a place on the Massachusetts Parole Board as reward for his work as state director of the Democratic ticket among Negroes in recent campaign.

BULLOCK GETS NEW POSITION

Chronicle

Named Supervisor in Correction Dept.

6-20-37.

Boston, Mass.

Further honor came to Atty. Matthew W. Bullock this week when he was named by Arthur T. Lyman, State Commissioner of Correction, as supervisor of case work in his department.

Mr. Bullock recently had terminated nine years of excellent service on the Parole Board where he was succeeded by Silas F. Taylor. In the present instance Bullock succeeds Frank B. Howland, a Curley appointee.

In commenting on the appointment Commissioner Lyman said: "In obtaining the experience and knowledge that Mr. Bullock has, the department has taken a real step forward."

Lawyer Named On State Parole Board

Courier

WATERTOWN, Mass., June 17—(By E. W. Clark for A. N. P.)—Atty. Cyril F. Butler, well-known member of the local bar and prominent in Democratic circles, last week was appointed a member of the new State Parole Board by Governor Charles F. Hurley, at an annual salary of $4,500. In the last campaign for the governorship, Candidate Hurley placed Atty. Butler in charge of the colored voters' division, hence his appointment to the post held by Dr. "Shag" Taylor, another colored Democrat, but the appointee of former Governor Curley.

GOVERNOR NAMES NEGRO ATTORNEY ON PAROLE BOARD

Negro Star

WATERTOWN, Mass.—(ANP)—Atty. Cyril F. Butler, well-known member of the local bar and prominent in Democratic circles, last week was appointed a member of the new state parole board by Gov. Charles F. Hurley, at an annual salary of $4,500. In the last campaign for the governorship, Candidate Hurley placed Atty. Butler in charge of the colored voters' division, hence his appointment to the post held by Dr. "Shag" Taylor, another colored Democrat, but the appointee of former Gov. Curley.

6-25-37

In some quarters here, the Butler placement is seen as part of the new administration's plan to oust all appointees named by former Gov. Hurley just before his term ended. Said the new board member after being notified of his selection, "I have a job to do and I shall do it honestly and to the best of my ability.'

Political - 1937

Michigan

Office Holding

Tolan Gets Big Political Post

2-6-37 Defender

Eddie Tolan, Detroit Negro who was credited with being the world's fastest runner until he lost the title ast summer to another member of his race, Jesse Owens, has become a member of the staff of the National Youth Administration in Michigan, it was announced today.

The former Olympic title holder in the 100 and 200 meter dashes took up his new duties Monday in the Division of Race Activities of the Deroit office of the NYA. He is connected with the vocational guidance and placement service.

In the Olympic games held at Los Angeles in 1932, Tolan startled the sport world with his brilliant performance in the dashes, establishing world records of 10:3 for the 100 meter race and 21:2 in the 200. His record stood until Owens clipped it by fractions at Berlin four years later.

Tolan graduated from the University of Michigan in 1931 and later studied law at the University of Detroit. In 1933 he was appointed to a position with the Register of Deeds of Wayne county—a position from which he resigned to accept appointment to the NYA.

SENATOR CHARLES DIGGS AT HIS DESK

The Man Who Wanted to Be SENATOR

It Was 1000 Miles Away but He Took a Mississippi Rainbow and Struck out for Detroit; He's State Senator Now.

He came up from the Delta and won.

It's more than 1000 miles from the small, beaten, shanty towns sprawling lazily around the Mississippi Delta, to the great motor city of Detroit, Michigan.

But back in 1911, when Charles Diggs's father died, leavinghis widow, a retiredschool teacher, with eleven children, young Diggs, just in his teens, wasn't thinking about these 1000 miles. He didn't have time to do much thinking.

He had to get out of Alcorn College, Miss., in a hurry and get a job, because his dad, a Baptist missionary in Liberia, hadn't left enough to keep the family going, let alone to keep him in school.

Charles didn't know it, but he was about to get the training that enabled him, last year, to become the first Democratic State Senator of his race in the history of Michigan, a State where the roots of Republicanism go deep.

He got a job washing dishes on the Katie Adams, a steamboat plying between New Orleans and Memphis, Tenn. One day he got off at Memphis, decided to stay.

Salesman Suggests North

A white automobile agent from Detroit took Waiter Diggs aside, one day, and told him that a young fellow with such bright, intelligent eyes ought to go up North where he could "be somebody and do things."

Diggs took the advice. He got a train out for Knoxville, Tenn., stayed there long enough to get a wife, then pushed on to Washington, D.C., where he had a short honeymoon, and came near losing his only money, a twenty-dollar gold piece.

His next stop was Philadelphia, where he got a job at the Hog Island Shipyards, went to the Eccles School of embalming, and by 1913, was ready to enter Detroit and settle down for his real work.

He didn't get over to France because somebody had to take care of his widowed mother and all those kids.

Repaired Shoes on Side

He set up his undertaking establishment, supplying money largely through his trade of shoe repairing, learned at Alcorn.

But things didn't go so well, and he left Detroit, only to return again in 1919, and this time he found himself. In 1928, with his undertaking business coming along, he was the big fellow in the Elks of Detroit.

It was then than he got his first political experience, when he ran Mayor Smith's non-partisan campaign.

And then he conceived the supposedly farfetched plan of organizing a real Democratic organization in Michigan beginning with a six-weeks' tour of the 160 precincts in over-sized Wayne County.

In that year, he saw a 5 per cent colored Democratic vote in Michigan, but he wasn't through. By 1932 the percentage had increased to 38 per cent, and a Democratic organization had been welded together.

In August, 1936, the woman's division of his organization decided to run him for State Senator. They paid the fee, and filed his name.

His third Senatorial dictrict includes three wards in Detroit, and the city of Hamtramck, Michigan, boasting, 30,000 citizens, mostly Poles.

He polled 27,000 votes, beating the Polish incumbent, John Mowcoski, who ran as an Independent, after having lost to Diggs in the Democratic primary. His other opponent, Aaron Toodle, a druggist, polled 7,000 votes.

Of his 27,000 votes, 11,000 came from the largely Polish city of Hamtramck, because Diggs impressed the Lieutenant Governor of Michigan,

Political - 1937

Office Holding

Michigan

Tolan Gets Big Political Post

2-6-37 Defender

Eddie Tolan, Detroit Negro who was credited with being the world's fastest runner until he lost the title last summer to another member of his race, Jesse Owens, has become a member of the staff of the National Youth Administration in Michigan, it was announced today.

The former Olympic title holder in the 100 and 200 meter dashes took up his new duties Monday in the Division of Race Activities of the Deroit office of the NYA. He is connected with the vocational guidance and placement service.

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himself a Polish American, with the strength of 80,000 colored voters. That official got the Polish daily behind Diggs, and the Mayor of Hamtramck, too.

As it now stands there are 15 Republicans in the Michigan Senate at Lansing and 16 Democrats.

Holds Balance of Power

Thus Charles Diggs, now 43 with the face, eyes and bearing of a man of 25, finds himself a Democratic State Senator, holding the balance of power in the Republican-ribbed State of Michigan.

And he's happy over the fact that his mother, Mrs. Lillie A. Diggs, who died recently at 74, lived to see him sworn in on Jan. 6, 1936.

His four brothers, and one sister (the others are dead) are doing well. He's happy with his wife, Marie, who has come right along with him, and his 14-year-old son, Charles, Jr.

Yes, it's more than a 1000 miles from that small, lazy Mississippi Delta town, just across from Lake Providence, La., where Senator Diggs was born, but Charles Diggs reached up, took the rainbow, and wrapped it around his shoulders.

He was on his way to Detroit, and he got there too

HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ACT

U 75057
1937
MICHIGAN

Thomas B. Orum, recently appointed Michigan's first manager of a license bureau, a unit of the Secretary of State's office, is pictured above as he is being congratulated and issuing his first official automobile license to John Dolphin, one of Detroit's enterprising businessmen. Mr. Orum is on the right.

Daily World

3-3-37

John Dolphin, on the left, heads the firm of John Dolphin, Inc., automobile dealer, with sales office at 583 East Vernor Highway, Detroit. Mr. Dolphin is nationally known and recently received an award from Roy Lightfield, mayor of "Paradise Valley", Detroit's Harlem, as the outstanding business man last year. Mr. Dolphin and his crew of youthful salesmen, clerks and stenographers were credited with the sales of more automobiles in the State of Michigan than any other dealer of similar status.

Atlanta, Ga

Political - 1937
Office Holding

Michigan

MICH. GOVERNOR PLAYS FAIR WITH COLORED VOTERS

Uses Race Girl As Secretary—Makes Important Appointments and "I'll Make Some More," He Tells Courier Man.

By EARL J. MORRIS
(Exclusively to The Courier)

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, STATE CAPITOL, LANSING, Mich., Monday—Governor Frank Murphy, Michigan's liberal executive and political patrician, granted The Pittsburgh Courier an exclusive interview today.

Your correspondent felt much like a visiting dignitary. Senator Charles C. Diggs met this writer upon his arrival in the capitol city. Breakfast in the swank Olds Hotel and a brief nap in the same establishment. Following the interview which will follow in subsequent paragraphs, Governor Murphy assigned a State police escort to accompany your Courier correspondent, along with Senator Diggs to tour the city.

Upon entering the State capitol, which is housed in a historic structure, one is awestruck by the liberalism manifested everywhere. And let me state here and now, this is the first State capitol which I have visited where discrimination based upon color, or race is a non-entity. Its restaurants and hotels are open to all alike.

Governor Frank Murphy has two secretaries. One is white and the other colored. Both courteous and intelligent young ladies. Governor Murphy informed The Courier that Miss Hazel Miller, his brown-skinned secretary, who has her master's degree, 'is one of the most efficient secretaries I have had in my entire political career. I just recently raised her salary $2000 a year."

Last Friday, Governor Murphy appointed Attorney Jos. A. Craiger as a Deputy Commissioner of Labor. This is one of the choicest political plums which has ever been awarded the race. There are three, and one is an intelligent colored attorney. His salary is $3,500 a year. Governor Murphy's salary as governor is only $5,000, with an additional $5,000 allowed for expenses.

Another of the choice plums given to the race is that of Assistant Attorney General Jack Young, whose salary is $4,500 a year. Murphy also establishes another precedent when he appointed Thomas B. Orum as branch manager of the License Bureau, which is under Secretary of State Leon D. Case.

Governor Frank Murphy is a strong, forceful, impressive man with a kindly face and a head of rich, red hair. He is religious in his liberalism. He stated, "Michigan, like the nation, is composed of many minority groups, solidifying them into a great state or nation. It takes each individual from the poor to the rich to make any state. It is my aim to establish a feeling of brotherly love, for each citizen to love the other. If everyone loves everyone, we can build a great state.

"The minority groups seem to be the greatest sufferers, naturally I am interested in them. Their welfare shall be my chief concern. A man is a man in my opinion. The Negroes of this state have played an important part in its history. Therefore it is my aim to see that they continue to play an important role in State affairs. That is why I have set a precedent by placing colored people in responsible positions. And they are entitled to everything they get.

"I am going to surprise my colored constituency further by making other important appointments. First among them will be the appointment of a colored man as an accountant for the State Liquor Control Board, it is my aim to try and satisfy all of the minority groups of this great State. I want to see them working, living side by side harmoniously. This can only be done when you try to satisfy each group. Try to solve their problems.

"I am a reader of The Pittsburgh Courier and I have the greatest admiration for Robert L. Vann. He is indeed a great leader, and he is a credit to America."

Other State offices have followed suit by placing colored secretaries in their offices.

One has to admire Gov. Frank Murphy for his liberal attitude. He unlike other public officials during campaign times promise the Negroes many things, but never do anything. It is a pleasant thing to walk into the Governor's office see two young ladies, one white and the other colored. Miss Miller is dark brown in complexion, and it is impossible for a white person to mistake her for anything, but a colored girl.

When Murphy took the reins of government early this year, there were never more than ten Negroes in the State capitol as officials or employes. Then the majority were janitors or in menial positions. In Leon D. Case, Secretary of State office, there are more than forty colored clerks. The auditor general, because of its technical work has the lowest amount of colored and that equals the past record of the entire State capitol colored payroll.

Your writer and Senator Diggs after dismissing our police escort, met with no discrimination. A few years ago in Chicago, they used to refer to the city hall during Mayor William Hale Thompson administration as "Uncle Tom Cabin." Such might be said of Michigan State Capitol. There are so many of our group employed there in worthwhile positions.

Michigan traditionally has been kind to Negroes. It has belonged to three countries. France flew her flag over the State twice, likewise Great Britain and finally America. It was an important depot during the Abolition Days to help slaves to freedom. Back in those days the State legislature enacted a law that any Negro setting foot on Michigan soil was a free man. During the Civil War, it was the Michigan troops which officially freed the first slave. The first all-Negro regiment formed in America, which fought in the Civil War was organized in this State.

The great governor upon concluding the interview said, "This is only the beginning!"

Michigan Lawmaker Backs Anti-Lynch Bill

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

SENATOR CHARLES C. DIGGS
Militant member of the Michigan State Senate, who left Detroit Thursday for Washington, D. C. He was joined there by other legislators from various northern and eastern states, for the purpose of making a united fight for the passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill.

Tribune
12-4-37
Detroit, Mich.

Senator Charles C. Diggs, militant colored member of the Michigan State Senate, who left Detroit, last week for Washington, D. C., where he will be joined by other senators and legislators from various Northern and Eastern States, for the purpose of making a united fight for the passage of the anti-lynching bill. The plan for northern state legislators to go to Washington for this purpose, was initiated by Senator Diggs and endorsed by political leaders of both races in other states. Senator Diggs, who was born in Mississippi forty-two years ago, came to Detroit in 1913. He is a mortician and is serving the second year of his first term in the Michigan Senate.

Negro Elected To Presidency Of School Board By Whites At Michigan Town

MT. CLEMENS, Mich.—A new mark was made here recently in race progress by Prince Drewry, a Tuskegee gaduate, when he was elected president of the Board of Education, Mt. Clemens, a small town of 8,000 population. He has served on the Board for five years and has won the respect of all citizens.

Plaindealer
Kansas City
Kansas
9-10-37

There are 1,000 colored residents in the town. The election saw his four colleagues, all white, cast their ballots for him.

Drewry is the only Negro in the state to ever have been elected to this position. Before his election last week he had served as treasurer for the Board for three years.

Drewry was nominated and elected five years ago by the majority vote of the population. During his tenure, he succeeded in having appointed four race women as teachers. There are 12 teachers in all, in the district.

The new president also serves the state as a clerk in the Operator's License Bureau in the Secretary of State's office.

Michigan Senator

SENATOR CHAS. C. DIGGS

Black Dispatch

Militant colored member of the Michigan State Senate, who left Detroit Thursday for Washington, D. C., where he will be joined by other senators and legislators from various northern and eastern states, for the purpose of making a united fight for the passage of the anti-lynching bill, in opposition to the southern Democratic filibuster leaders.

12-11-37

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Oklahoma
City
Okla

Senator Diggs, who was born in Mississippi forty-two years ago, went to Detroit in 1913. He is a successful mortician and is serving th second year of his first term in the Michigan Senate where he has made a fine record.

Several important legislative measures have been successfully sponsored by Diggs, including an amendment putting teeth in the Michigan Civil Rights Act; the insertion of a clause in the State

Political – 1937
Office Holding.

Minnesota.

NAMED CLERK IN MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

Call

C. E. Rucker First Negro To Receive Such Position

1-22-37

ST. PAUL.— (CPS) — C. E. Rucker, attorney, has been appointed clerk in the Minnesota state legislature here, according to an announcement made this week.

Rucker, who previously had been employed with the new social security board, assumed his duties last Tuesday at the opening of the legislative session and was assigned to the chief clerk's office in the state capitol.

Rucker's appointment to the clerkship position of the Minnesota legislature is the first of its kind in the history of Minnesota and represents the first major legislative appointment a Negro has received anywhere from the Farmer-Labor party.

The new appointee is a graduate of Howard university and of the Minnesota college of law. For five years Rucker was a member of the faculty of Tuskegee institute.

Rucker formerly managed the Our Economy market and is now one of the proprietors of the Summer Sweet shop. Prior to his appointment to the new social security board, Rucker was employed by the Minnesota state board of education and conducted a series of classes in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

He is a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. During the recent presidential campaign was chairman of the Patterson-For-Attorney general committee, and a member of the Roosevelt club and the Farmer-Labor association. Rucker lives in Minneapolis at 1103 Lyndale avenue, North. He is a native of Boulder, Colo.

Clerk of Legislature

Age
1-23-37

CLIFFORD E. RUCKER of Minneapolis, Minn., was recently appointed clerk in the Minnesota State Legislature, the first member of the race to hold such a position in that state.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

Missouri.

R. L. WIGGINS IS INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Call

Columbia High School Teacher Named to Succeed Late E. O. Boone

8-27-37

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. Roland L. Wiggins, science and physical education teacher at the Douglass high school in Columbia, has been appointed state inspector for Negro schools.

Kansas City Mo.

He succeeds the late Ernest O. Boone, also of Columbia, who died last spring. Boone held the position from January, 1935, to the time of his death.

The appointment was made by Lloyd W. King, state superintendent of schools, in recognition of the record he has made at the Columbia school.

Wiggins is a graduate of Wilberforce university and Hampton institute and has done graduate work at Northwestern and Chicago universities.

He is active in state educational work, serving now as chairman of the educational commission of the Missouri State Association of Negro Teachers of which Burt A. Mayberry of Kansas City is president.

Wiggins is former president of the Missouri Negro Interscholastic association. He is a member of the St. Paul A. M. E. church in Columbia.

McLEMORE RESIGNS LEGAL AID BUREAU

It has just been announced that Attorney Joseph L. McLemore has resigned as assistant in the Legal Aid Bureau, to which position he was appointed by Mayor Dickmann in 1933. Simultaneously, announcement is made that the law firm of McLemore, Witherspoon and Lucas has been enlarged to include attorneys Daniel W. Bowles, David M. Grant, Edwin F. Kenswil and William H. Parker.

The new firm will do a general law business and practice in all of the courts, with Joseph L. McLemore as senior partner.

Mr. McLemore is active in civic and political life of St Louis and is the president of the board of curators of Lincoln University, a member of the board of managers of the Pine Street Y.M.C.A. and a member of the board of directors of the New Age Building and Loan Association.

In accepting his resignation, Mayor Dickmann wrote "I accept this resignation, but with regret. You may rest assured that whenever I can be of any help to you, I will be glad to do so. as there has already been such a fine relationship between our administration and you."

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

Nebraska

Nebraska Legislator And Wife Guest Of Governor

Courier 2-13-'37 Pittsburgh, Pa.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 11—(ANP)—Senator John Adams, Jr., of Omaha, only Negro member of Nebraska's unique one-house legislature body, is making an enviable record. Atty. Adams is one of the few lawyers in the body and is a member of the banking, phaseology, and purisprudence committees. Senator and Mrs. Adams were dinner guests of Gov. and Mrs. Roy Cochran a few days ago. Mr. Adams, who is 31 years old, is the father of two children. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, graduate of Universitv of Nebraska, and son of Rev. and Mrs. John Adams, of Omaha, Neb.

WINS POST

Courier 3-13-37 Pittsburgh Pa

Miss Dorothy Scott, typing and stenographic expert, a graduate of the Omaha Central high school, who has been appointed a member of the stenographic staff of the Nebraska legislature. She is the first person of her race to hold such a position. She was appointed by Senator John Adams, Jr.—ANP photo.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE DEFEATS CHILD LABOR BILL OF COLORED SENATOR; MANY ORGANIZATIONS ANGRY

Objection to Measure Introduced By John Adams So Great That Record Was Not Required---Women Protest "Cowardly Action."

LINCOLN, Neb., April 8.—(By Trago McWilliams for ANP)—A bill proposing ratification of the federal child labor amendment, introduced by Atty. John Adams Jr. of Omaha, only colored member of the Nebraska unicameral legislature, was overwhelmingly vetoed Friday. Objection was so great that a machine record was not required and senators escaped going on record.

Immediately representatives of 11 woman's organizations sent angry telegrams of protest to Speaker Warner scoring the "cowardly action" of the body. It was the fifth time the measure has been rejected in Nebraska, with 28 other states voting for ratification.

Senator Adams, a graduate of the Nebraska law college, is serving his second term as a state legislator.

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

New Jersey

NEWARK MAN IS APPOINTED AS COLLECTOR

Amsterdam News

Internal Revenue Job Given Youthful Organizer

1-16-'37

The appointment of Gibbon "Chick" Strother, of 15 Quitman street, Newark, as deputy collector of internal revenue for the fifth collection district, has been announced by Assistant Prosecutor J. Bernard Johnson, Democratic leader.

Strother was born in Newark 28 years ago, is married and the father of three children. He is a graduate of the Newark public and high schools and has been active in affairs of young people here for several years. He was president of the Newark chapter of the Student Council here for four years, a charter member of the Solitaire Club and chairman of its entertainment committee.

Other recent appointments announced by Johnson's office are: James D. Brooks, supervisor of personnel, WPA; Armstead Faulkner, clerk, Health Department, and Atty. Roger M. Yancey, assistant bill clerk, New Jersey legislature.

R. F. KEARSE, POSTMASTER IN NEW JERSEY TOWN, SAYS 'FIGHT FOR PUBLIC JOBS'

Call

4-7-37

Kansas City Mo

To qualify for high positions in private industry and business, Negroes must get the necessary experience from public jobs under federal, state and county governments, believes Robert F. Kearse, postmaster at Vauxhall, N. J., who was here last week.

"Many Negroes who have the educational background and the personality to fill important places in industry and commerce," he said, "are ruled out because they have had no experience. As there are no big Negro enterprises where this experience can be obtained, we must fight for public jobs where we can get this training."

Kearse, whose appointment to the postmastership was the result of a three-year fight by New Jersey Democrats, views his present job as a stepping stone to a permanent place in industry and commerce when his time as a political appointee has expired.

Supported Democrats

Kearse has been postmaster since June, 1936, of Vauxhall, a town of 7,000 population of which 40 per cent is Negro. Vauxhall, near Newark, N. J., has always been pro-Franklin D. Roosevelt, Kearse said, even before the former governor of New York was nominated for President in Chicago in 1932.

Then in the 1932 election, the Negro voters supported the Democrats so overwhelmingly that the Negro Democratic leaders clamored for a Negro to be appointed postmaster of Vauxhall. The office was to be declared vacant in May, 1933.

Pending the naming of a regular postmaster, party leaders named a white man as acting postmaster.

Negro leaders got busy and demanded of Postmaster General Farley and President Roosevelt that a Negro be placed in charge of the Vauxhall postoffice.

Kearse, president of the Vauxhall Democratic club, Inc., and of the Roosevelt-Garner club of North Jersey, was appointed postmaster.

High in Exams

There was so much dissatisfaction among the white residents of Vauxhall that it was decided to call a civil service examination.

Of the three Negroes and six whites who took the examination, Kearse made the highest score Dr. John E. Watts, a Negro, was second and a white man was third.

The acting postmaster, named by party leaders, did not qualify. Still not satisfied, the white citizens demanded another civil service examination. This time, eight Negroes and seven whites took it.

Determined to keep Negroes at the top of the list, the Negroes who took the first examination coached those who had not taken it.

In the second test, four Negroes were among the five ranking highest, Kearse remaining in No. 1 position and Dr. Watts, second. The white acting postmaster ranked third this time.

Since he took the office of postmaster a year and three months ago, Kearse has conducted the office.

Wide Business Experience

During his first year in office, Kearse had a $6,500 stamp business and wrote $100,000 in money orders. His assistant postmaster is a woman, Lessie L. Baker.

He believes that when his postmaster days are over, he will have the experience necessary for an accounting job in large industries which would not consider him because of his lack of experience.

Kearse has had a wide variety of activities. He is a graduate of a business college in Philadelphia and a graduate of the New York university school of commerce and accounts.

Specializing in life insurance, he was manager for four years of the Hudson county district of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance. He has been a bookkeeper for a Cuban restaurant, was a sailor in the United States naval reserve during the World war, was manager of an A. and P. grocery store in Newark, was advertising solicitor for a New Jersey weekly, a postal clerk in New York and has an interest in a real estate and a greeting card company.

A native of South Carolina, Kearse has lived in New Jersey for 26 years and in Vauxhall for nine years.

He was here to attend the funeral of his father-in-law, the late T. Parker Smith, founder of the Smith Business college.

ROBERT KEARSE

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Office Holding 6

New York.

T. Arnold Hill To High Post

Named to New York Social Welfare Board

2-13-37

NEW YORK.—T. Arnold Hill, director of industrial relations of the National Urban League, has been appointed to the state board of social welfare for a term expiring on July 1, 1940.

The New York state department of social welfare has in its charge all of the welfare activities of the state—the care of the blind, penal institutions, reformatories, child care, dependent mothers, old age pensions, etc.

It is one of the most powerful bodies in the state dealing with the welfare of its citizens, and the news that Mr. Hill has been appointed for a long term on the administrative body by Governor Lehman was a source of great satisfaction to colored citizens of the state who feel that their interests will receive equitable consideration.

Dr. Cheney Named Examining Medic For Boxing Com.

Age 2-13-37

Dr. Perry W. Cheney, well-known Harlem physician and sportsman, was appointed last week as an examining physician for the New York State Athletic Commission. His duties will include the examining of boxers before they enter the ring for pugilistic contest. It is the first appointment of the kind given a Negro in this state and came as a result of the recommendation of Herbert L. Bruce, Democratic leader of the 21st A. D.

Dr. Cheney is a native of Augusta, Ga. and a graduate of Howard University and Medical School. He was one of the early football stars at Howard. He is a familiar figure at all athletic contests in New York and during the past season served as examining physician for the Newark Eagles, Negro entry in the Negro National League.

He will work under the direction of Dr. William Walker, brother of former Mayor James J. Walker, who has headed the examining physicians for the State Athletic Commission for many years.

SALARIES OF 'KEY MEN' JUMP; 4 DRAW $12,000 ENVELOPES

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The year 1937 will go down in the records as a bonanza year for hundreds of Harlemites on the city's payroll whose salaries have just been restored to pre-depression level by the city's Board of Estimate.

THEY DRAW REAL SALARIES FOR SERVING NEW YORK CITY

NAME	Former Salary	Present Salary
HUBERT T. DELANEY Commissioner of Bd. of Taxes	$ 8,500	$12,000
FERDINAND Q. MORTON Civil Service Commissioner	$ 6,500	$ 8,500
CHARLES E. TONEY Justice, Municipal Court	$10,840	$12,000
JAMES S. WATSON Justice, Municipal Court	$10,840	$12,000
MYLES A. PAIGE City Magistrate	$10,000	$12,000
WESLEY WILLIAMS Captain, Fire Department	$ 4,185	$ 4,500
DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT Police Surgeon	$ 4,910	$ 5,300

The restored pay cuts will occillate between a few hundred a year and $3,500, and the harvest of gold will flow into the eager palms of clerks and deputies, as well as judges and commissioners.

The list is topped by increases to two municipal court justices, one magistrate, one commissioner of the Board of Taxes and Assessments and one civil service commissioner, but hundreds of school teachers, policemen and others will also find enough in the corners of their pay envelopes to pay for luxuries which they have not enjoyed for years.

The biggest salary jump will be that of Hubert T. Delany, commissioner of the Board of Taxes and Assessments, whose pay will rise from $8,500 to $12,000, the basic salary for this post. Ferdinand Q. Morton, one of the city's three civil service commissioners, whose pay was reduced to $6,500 in 1934, will return to the old standard figure of $8,500.

Harlem's representatives in the municipal courts, Justices Charles E. Toney and James S. Watson, will receive increases from $10,840 to $12,000. Myles A. Paige, the newly appointed city magistrate, who went in at a salary of $10,000, will now receive a monthly check for $1,000.

Wesley Williams, the only Negro captain in the Fire Department, will receive a raise from $4,185 to $4,500, and Dr. Louis Wright, the city's only Negro police surgeon, will jump from $4,910 to $5,300.

Another sizable increase will go to Police Lieut. Samuel J. Battles, whose last yearly check was for $3,730. He will now receive $4,000. Then there is Gertrude Ayer, Harlem's only school principal, who will now receive the basic $5,000 as against $4,640. In addition, Mrs. Ayer is entitled to a yearly increase of $250 until her pay attains a level of $7,000.

MELVIN FOUNTAIN GIVEN TREASURY APPOINTMENT

Age 3-20-37

His family and friends joined in a joyous celebration on Saturday night in honor of Melvin J. Fountain, 31, 1710A Fulton street, who was on Friday appointed to the Internal Revenue Department of the First District of New York. The party was held at the home of Melvin's brother, Frank Fountain, prominent Ozone Park business man who is very active in Queens political circles.

Graduate of Public School 178 Brooklyn Evening High School, Pratt Institute and New York Electrical College, the appointee is one of the more outstanding and progressive young men of the borough. He attends the Brown Memorial Church, is a member of the Pythians and Brooklyn Lodge No. 32 of the I. B.P.O.E. W. and the Crispus Attucks Community Council. He played an important part in the recent primary contest between Bernard Dillon and the present Commissioner J. Sexton.

Commenting on his appointment, Fountain declared that he believes the prospect for the appointment of more Negroes in the department is bright. He has words of appreciation to say for James V. Kelley, district leader, Commissioner Sexton, and Collector Almon G. Rasquin, who he declares seem to be willing and eager to do anything in their power to accept and recommend Negroes for jobs in the department to which he has been appointed.

It is rumored that the recent activity of Fountain in the primary elections and the influence of his brother in Queens Democratic circle had much to do with the giving of the job to the young Brooklynite.

Persistent rumors also are that young Fountain will be married shortly to Lucinda M. Brooks, young Philadelphia school teacher.

Two Negro Municipal Court Justices Have Fine 6-Year Record

Age 4-3-37
New York

The report issued by the President Justice of the Municipal Court of the City of New York, for the year 1937, gave the folowing record of Judges Toney and Watson:

Judge Toney held court 211 days, took 253 inquests, tried 1202 cases, heard 2016 motions and granted and signed 6221 final orders.

Judge Watson held court 172 days took 156 inquests, tried 615 cases, heard 1419 motions and granted and signed 5,90 final orders.

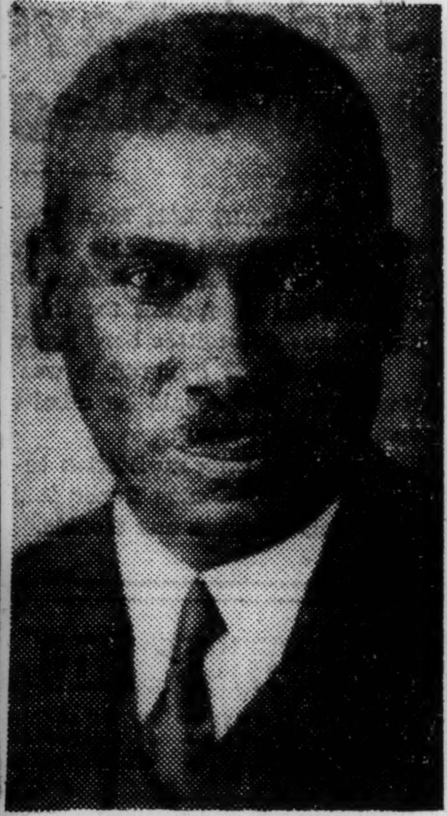
It is further disclosed by the records in the office of the Clerk of the Apellate Term, First Department, that 22 appeals were taken from judgments and orders of Judge Toney and that two were reversed and that 29 appeals were taken from orders and judgments of Judge Watson and nine were reversed.

It is also interesting to note that their six-year record on the bench has been uniformly good, as shown by the following record for that period of time:

Judge Toney held court 1214 days conducted 7813 trials, took 3494 inquests, heard and decided 18498 motions, granted and signed 39163 final orders in summary proceeedings and had 150 affirmances on appeal and 67 reversals for the six years.

Judge Watson held court 1206½ days, conducted 5993 trials, took 2675 inquests, heard and decided 14,926 motions, granted and signed 27,366 final orders in summary proceedings and was affirmed 157 and reversed 93 times on appeal during the six-year period.

2 Negro Judges Have Fine 6-Year Records


Judge James S. Watson.

Judge Charles E. Toney.

What Justices Charles E. Toney and James S. Watson, Harlem's two judges, have accomplished in their six years on the bench, as recently disclosed in reports by the President Justice of the Municipal Court of the City of New York and the Clerk of the Appellate Division.

Journal & Guide

Judge Toney's Record.

For the year 1936, the reports indicate that Justice Toney held court 211 days, took 253 inquests, tried 1,202 cases, heard 2,016 motions, and granted and signed 6,221 final orders. It is further disclosed by the Clerk of the Appellate Term, First Department, that of twenty-two appeals taken from decisions of Justice Toney only two were reversed.

4-3-37

Norfolk Va.

Judge Watson's Record.

In the same period, Justice Watson held court 172 days, took 156 inquests, tried 615 cases, heard 1,419 motions, and granted and signed 5,490 final orders. Of twenty-nine appeals taken from his orders and judgments, nine were reversed.

Six Years' Records.

After serving six years of their ten-year terms, Justices Toney and Watson show the following record Judge Toney held court 1,214 days conducted 7,813 trials, took 3,494 inquests, heard and decided 18,498 motions, granted and signed 39,163 final orders in summary proceedings During the same period Judge Toney was upheld in 150 appeals and was reversed in sixty-seven cases.

Judge Watson held court 1,206½ days, conducted 5,993 trials, took 2,675 inquests, heard and decided 14,926 motions, granted and signed 27,366 final orders in summary proceedings. The Appellate Division affirmed Judge Watson in 157 cases and reversed him in ninety-three cases.

Portsmouth, Va. Star
April 11, 1937

Local Negro Gets Important Appointment

Word of appointment of a former Portsmouth colored citizen, Vernon C. Riddick, now a well known attorney, to the rank of assistant Attorney-General of New York State, has bten received here.

After practicing law in New York City successfully for the past ten years, Attorney Riddick was appointed to the position by Attirney General James J. Bennett at a salary reputed to be $5,500 a year.

Riddick was born in this city in 1897 and received his preliminary schooling here. He attended the old Norfolk Mission College and later Howard University, where he received his law degree. For some time he was a member of the faculty of the Nircom High School. About ten years ago he went to New York City.

The new appointee is the nephew of Joseph Riddick, of King street.

Appointed

DR. W. G. ALEXANDER of Orange, who has been appointed a member of the advisory committee on medicine and public health of the World's Fair, which will be held in New York City in 1939. This committee will have entire control over the planning and supervision of the medical and public health exhibits and expects to expend no less than $1,000,000.

Amsterdam News
11-13-37
New York

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
October 2, 1937

FLORIDA NEGRO NAMED TO POSTOFFICE POST

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—(AP)—Postmaster General Farley announced today the appointment of Ralph E. Mizelle of New York city as an attorney in the office of the solicitor of the postoffice department.

Mizelle, a negro and a member of the New York bar, was born in Lake City, Fla., Dec. 1, 1893. He served as a staff officer with the 366th infantry in France.

FARLEY NAMES R. E. MIZELLE P. O ATTORNEY

Call

New York Lawyer to Post Formerly Held By William C. Hueston

10-8-37

WASHINGTON. —(ANP) — Postmaster General James A. Farley Saturday announced the appointment of Ralph E. Mizelle, attorney of 1107 Broadway, New York city, as an attorney in the office of the Solicitor of the post office department. Judge William C Hueston held the post under the Hoover administration.

Kansas City Mo.

Mizelle, who is a Negro member of the New York bar, was born in Lake City, Fla., December 1, 1893. He attended the public schools of that city, Florida A. and M. college at Tallahassee, the University of Illinois, and Fordham university Law School in New York city.

He is a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the National Bar association, the New York County Lawyers Association, the Harlem Bar Association, the Jackson Democratic club in the Bronx and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. The post pays $3,000 per year and is said to have been sponsored by Mr. Farley as a result of the New York mayoralty fight.

Farley Names Negro Lawyer To Federal Post

Age

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Announcement was made here October 1 by Postmaster Jas. A. Farley that Ralph E. Mizelle, New York attorney, had been appointed to the legal staff of the solicitor of the Post Office Department. It is the first appointment of its kind ever given a Negro.

10-9-37

Mr. Mizelle a former teacher at South Carolina State College, settled in New York after serving in France as a staff officer with the 366th Infantry during the World War. He is a resident of the Bronx and a member of the Jackson Democratic Club of that Borough. He maintains a law office at 1107 Broadway and is a member of the National Bar Association, the New York County Lawyers' Association and the Harlem Bar Association.

New York N.Y.

The appointment came on the recommendation of New York's Secretary of State, Edward J. Flynn, Democratic leader of The Bronx.

PUT T. ARNOLD HILL ON MEDIATION BOARD

Amsterdam News

T. Arnold Hill, executive of the National Urban League, was selected as one of seventy-six arbitrators and mediators by the State Mediation Board, to serve in labor disputes when asked by the mediation board, it was announced Tuesday. Mr. Hill is the only Negro member included in the panel.

It was pointed out that many labor contracts made since the state labor board was established on July 1 provide that grievances that cannot be adjusted within the contractual machinery shall be submitted for arbitration by the mediation board or by a person selected by the board.

11-20-37

It is seen in the appointment of Mr. Hill, who has had a long experience in the field of industrial problems and disputes, that the Negro in this state will be better protected whenever Mr. Hill sits as one of the arbitrators or mediators in a labor dispute.

New York N.Y.

Political - 1937
Office Holding

New York.

SWORN IN AS CHIEF BUYER
OF CHEMICALS FOR NEW YORK

New York, October 1. - Maurice Moore, 33, of this city, was sworn in this week as the chief buyer of chemicals and drugs for the city of New York. The position pays $4000.

Press Service of the N.A.A.C.P.

Mr. Moore, a graduate of Fisk and Columbia universities, took the civil service examination for the position, making the highest mark, 86.76. Of the 141 men who took the examination, only nine passed and the next highest mark to that of Mr. Moore's was 83.86.

10-1-37 New York N.Y.

The new chief buyer is the head of his own firm, the Davis and Moore Chemical Manufacturing Laboratory at 107 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, and he is also chief chemist for the Organic Preparations Company, of Brooklyn, being the only Negro on a staff of more than a dozen. He was born in Fort Worth, Tex. As the chief buyer of chemicals for the city of New York, Mr. Moore will supervise the purchase of five million dollars worth of drugs annually.

FARLEY NAMES NEGRO AS POSTAL ATTORNEY

Constitution 10-2-37 Atlanta, Ga

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—(AP)—Postmaster General Farley announced today the appointment of Ralph E. Mizelle, of New York city, as an attorney in the office of the solicitor of the Postoffice Department.

Mizelle, a negro and a member of the New York bar, was born in Lake City, Fla., December 1, 1893. He served as a staff officer with the 366th infantry in France.

Negro Sworn In As Chief Buyer Of Chemicals For N. Y.

Age 10-16-37

Maurice Moore, 33, was sworn in this week as the chief buyer of chemicals and drugs for the City of New York. The position pays $4000.

Mr. Moore, a graduate of Fisk and Columbia Universities, took the Civil Service examination for the position making the highest mark, 86.76. Of the 141 men who took the examination, only nine passed and the next highest mark to that of Mr. Moore's was 83.86.

The new chief buyer is the head of his own firm, the Davis and Moore Chemical Manufacturing Laboratory at 107 Fulton street, Brooklyn, and he is also chief chemist for the Organic Preparations Company, of Brooklyn, being the only Negro on a staff of more than a dozen. He was born in Fort Worth, Tex. As the chief buyer of chemicals for the City of New York, Mr. Moore will supervise the purchase of five million worth of drugs annually.

Prominent Negro Democrat Appointed

Washington, D. C.

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Mizelle, who is a Negro member of the New York bar, was born in Lake City, Flordia, Dec. 1, 1893. He attended the public schools of that city Flordia A & M College at Tallahassee the University of Illinois and Fordham University Law School in New York City. 11-4-37.

A member of the National Bar Association, the New York County Jackson Democratic Club. Mizelle served as staff officer with the 366th infantry in France.

Guardian Boston

DEMOCRATS RETURNED TO N.Y. LEGISLATURE

Argus

NEW YORK, Nov.— (ANP)—Despite the general city-wide vote given the Republican-Fusionist slate which reelected Mayor LaGuardia and put in Special Prosecutor Thomas E. Dewey as district attorney, Harlem returned Assemblymen Robert W. Justice and William T. Andrews to the state legislature on the Democratic ticket.

11-12-37 St. Louis Mo.

APPOINTED

ELMER A. CARTER

Elmer A. Carter Is Named To State Job By Governor Lehman

Age

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Congratulations were in order for Elmer A. Carter, of New York last week when announcement came of his appointment along with two others, to the New York State Appeal Board of Unemploymen Insurance. The appointments were made by Governor Herbert H. Lehman, of New York, vacationing at the Hotel Traymore in Atlantic City.

11-27-37

Appointed with Carter, who is editor of the Opportunity Magazine, official organ of the New York Urban League, were David M. Bressler, of New York City, and John E. McGarry of Syracuse. Bresler is an insurance agent and former president of the National Conference of Jewish Social Work, while McGarry is secretary-treasurer of the Allied Printing Trades Council of New York State.

New York N.Y.

Carter, whose brilliant work in the Urban League has earned for him a reputation among social circles of both races, will find his new duties not unfamiliar. He has been a member of the Unemployment Insurance State Advisory Council since May, 1935.

Although usually reliable sources revealed to The New York Age the fact that the position to which the editor was named carries a salary with it, details of that salary were not available as The Age went to press.

Named Examiner

Afro American

Robert J. Elzy, executive director of the Brooklyn Urban League-Lincoln Settlement, Inc., at 105 Fleet Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., who was appointed on December 2, to serve as an oral examiner by the Civil Service Commission of the City of New York. The examination was for social investigators for the Emergency Relief Bureau and the Department of Public Welfare. He is the first to serve in this position.

12-25-37

Mr. Elzy has been director of the Brooklyn Urban League for twenty years. He is an outstanding social worker, and he is a member of the board of directors of the Welfare Council of New York City, also the United Neighborhood Houses, the executive committee of the Citizens' Housing Council of the City of New York, and many others.

He is a graduate of Fisk University, has studied at Columbia University, and is a candidate for his M.A. in Sociology at New York University

Ohio

Political - 1937
Office Holding.

Miss Elsie Austin Named To State Post!

The following article is from the Cincinnati Enquirer, Jan. 4, 1937:

Miss Austin, the first Negro woman graduated from the College of Law at the University of Cincinnati, will be the first of her race and scx to be named an assistant to the Attorney-General of Ohio, She will take office next Monday.

1-7-37

Cincinnati, Ohio

The first Colored woman graduate from the College of Law of the University of Cincinnati also will have the distinction of being the first Colored woman assistant to the Attorney General of Ohio.. Miss Elsie Austin, 2632 Kemper Lane, hase been appointed to the staff of Attorney-General-Elect Herbert S. Duffey, to take office next Monday.

Miss Austin is 27 years old and has been in the general practice of law in Cincinnati for the last four years.

Political observers saw in the appointment of Miss Austin a move to solidify the large Negro vote which swung to the Democratic side in the last election. Her appointment was on recommendatioin of Dan Curran, Democratic Chairman of the Ninth Ward, it was said. She is to be notified officially today according to reports.

1-9-37

Associated of Miss Austin pointed out last night that in appointing her the administration was not merely making a political move, but also was obtaining the services of an able young woman attorney.

Miss Austin was born at Tuskegee Institute, famous Negro school of Tuskegee, Ala., where her mither, Mrs. Mary Louise Austin—now a teacher at Stowe School, Cincinnati was teaching in the Department of Household Sciences, and her father, the late Major George J. Austin was Commandant, in charge of the men in the student body. Major Austin later entered the service of the United States Army, remained in the reserves after he came to Cincinnati to engage in the insurance business, and was commissioned a Major shortly before his death in 1930.

Atty. General's Assistant Is Negro Girl

1-10-37
Atlanta, Ga.

CINCINNATI—(By James T Whitney for ANP)—Miss Elsie Austin was appointed an assistant to Attorney-General Herbert S Duffy of Ohio last Monday. She is the first Negro woman to graduate from the college of law of the University of Cincinnati. Miss Austin is 25 years of age and has been practicing law in this city for several years. She is the only colored woman lawyer in Cincinnati, and the first of her race and sex to be named as an assistant to the attorney-general of Ohio.

Miss Austin was born at Tuskegee, where her parents were employed. Her father, the late Major George J. Austin, was commandant, in charge of the men in the student body. Major Austin later entered the service of the United States Army and remained in the reserves after leaving Tuskegee. After locating here, Mr. Austin entered the insurance business. He was commissioned a major shortly before his death in 1930.

Miss Austin graduated from Walnut Hills high school in 1924 received her A. B. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1928 and returned to complete her legal education in 1929-30, receiving the LL. B. degree in law. She took her first year of law at the U. C., studied for a year in the law school of the University of Colorado, where she was on the case review staff of the Rocky Mountain Law Review. She was one of the eight students appointed on the basis of scholarship merit to the staff of the Cincinnati Law Review.

Attorney Elsie Austin of Cincinnati, the first woman to be named assistant to a state attorney general. She took office Monday and was assigned duties by Attorney General Herbert S. Duffy, Democrat. (See other story and picture, page eleven, this section; and page one, second section.)—Photo bv Colorgram.

Miss Austin is a member of the board of trustees of Wilberforce university, and is also a member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the P. H. Clark Democratic club. She is secretary of the Cincinnati branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and chairman of the legal committee for the S. W. District Federation of Women's Clubs.

WOMAN NAMED ASSISTANT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OHIO

1-16-37 Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Buckeye State Establishes Precedent By Appointing Atty. Elsie Austin to Important Post.

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Political-1937
Office Holding.

Ohio

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Courier

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1-16-37

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OHIO WOMAN IS APPOINTED TO HIGH POST

Cal

Wife of Wilberforce Official Named Juvenile Investigator

2-12-37

WILBERFORCE. — Mrs. Mary F. Valentine, wife of George Valentine, secretary-treasurer of Wilberforce university, has been appointed juvenile investigator in Greene county. She is the first Negro woman to hold this position in this county.

The appointment was made by George Smith, first Democrat to be elected judge of the Greene county probate court for more than 50 years.

Kansas City

Mrs. Valentine was born and reared in Xenia, Greene county, Ohio. She attended school at St. Brigids Parochial school, was graduated from the East high school and received her degree of bachelor of science in social administration from Wilberforce university June, 1936.

Complet-d Field Work

In order to apply for her degree in social administration, she completed her field work under the supervision of Miss Kathleen Smith in the Mother Pension department under Judge Wright.

The work involved in this appointment is not new to Mrs. Valentine, due to her wide experience and her contacts both among the white and Negro groups of Greene county.

She has made several surveys in relief work in the county. Since her graduation she has been active in volunteer case work and civic affairs.

She is an active member of the Ohio Welfare conference, the N. A. A. C. P., Ohio State Democratic League, Democratic State committeewoman and a member of the Delta Sigma chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

APPOINTED TO OHIO BOARD OF PAROLES

WILBERFORCE, Ohio—Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom of Wilberforce, in charge of the A. M. E. third Episcopal district, comprising states of Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania, and Kentucky, was appointed March 18 by Gov. L. Davey to membership on the Ohio parole board at a yearly salary of $6,000.

His term of office will expire in 1940. The appointment is in keeping with a promise made by Gov. Davey, that if reelected he would appoint a Negro.

It is the first time in the history of the state a Negro has held the position.

Bishop Ransom Named To Ohio Parole Board

WILBERFORCE, Ohio, March 26—Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom, Wilberforce, in charge of the Third Episcopal district comprising states of Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Kentucky, was appointed March 18, by Governor L. Davey to membership on the Ohio parole board at a yearly salary of $6,000. His term of office will expire in 1940. The appointment is in keeping with a promise made by Governor Davey, if re-elected he would appoint a member of the Race. It is the first time in the history of the state a Race member has held the position.

Woman Is Appointed Deputy U.S. Marshal

CINCINNATI, O., June 10.—(ANP)—United States Marshal R. Kenneth Kerr yesterday announced the appointment of Mrs. Marian M. Hubbard, 804 Beecher street, Walnut Hills, as a deputy United States marshal to succeed Jesse M. Dickerson, Columbus, Ohio, who resigned recently. Mrs. Hubbard is the first woman of the Race to receive this appointment in Ohio.

What Is Behind the Attack On Councilman Bundy?

PEOPLE of the Seventeenth Ward, long a Republican stronghold under the guidance of Councilman Leroy N. Bundy, are getting a close-up view these days at the way politics are played in a big city when the powers-that-be make up their collective minds that some Negro is getting too much power.

Mostly these forces work in a subtle and hidden way if they are able to find in the camp of The marked victim some weak and pliable followers who can be persuaded to play the Judas.

For many years it has been a sort of open secret that the growing political power of Councilman Bundy had become a thorn in the side of certain powerful interests in Cleveland. Bundy is shrewd—resourceful—and a splendid organizer—and his uncanny ability to play the political game has been one of the factors in the political alignment which the newspapers are accustomed to refer to as "The Finkle-Bundy-Payne-De Maioribus Bloc" in the City Council.

Cleveland Eagle

7-9-37

So, over and above the sudden interest which certain political factions have now presumed to take in the welfare of the 17th Ward, on the worn out complaint that Bundy is not always accessible to his ward precinct committeemen, is the hidden hand of rich and powerful interests pulling the strings which they have somehow tied to the coat-tails of ambitious members of the Bundy organization.

Cleveland, Ohio.

Remove all the blarney—analyze the overwhelming zeal that the daily newspapers, and those who control them, are showing in the "Get Bundy" hue and cry—and one finds the same interests which have largely controlled the political reins in Cleveland—a control which has, ironically enough, always depended upon the votes which Bundy and his political colleagues have in the past rolled up for the benefit of that machine.

It is not easy for those interests now to "pull the wool" over the eyes of intelligent Negroes, for they see in this subtle effort to destroy Bundy not so much a fight against Bundy as an effort to destroy Negro leadership in politics.

It is not a far cry from the crushing of Bundy, if made possible by Negro betrayal, to a subsequent attempt to wreck all vestiges of Negro political leadership in Cleveland.

Let the people of the Seventeenth Ward run their minds back over the recent history of the Negro's rise to political power in Cleveland — and check the planned incidents that have undermined that power and sought to cut it into shreds. Behold the situation in the Eighteenth Ward, made so by the muddling interference of the same interests which are now after Bundy.

THE EAGLE holds no brief for Councilman Bundy. He has even refused to be interviewed about the present situation. Yet we see plainly that represented in Bundy and his political associates is the vital germ of the Negro's growing political power—a thing that even if bitter to the taste at present, has been found good for other peoples in Cleveland.

Such political power—strong enough to throw a mayoralty election in the balance—seems at this reckoning one of the certain ways out to a place in the sun for the Negro in Cleveland—and THE EAGLE earnestly desires to sound a note of warning to those lieutenants in the Bundy ranks, who have turned turtle on their leader at the bidding of political higher-ups, to STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN — and then refuse to become parties to the planned destruction of the growth of Negro political power that it has taken long and arduous year to build up!

OHIO WOMAN IS APPOINTED TO HIGH POST

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The appointment was made by George Smith, first Democrat to be elected judge of the Greene county probate court for more than 50 years.

Kansas City

Mrs. Valentine was born and reared in Xenia, Greene county, Ohio. She attended school at St. Brigids Parochial school, was graduated from the East high school and received her degree of bachelor of science in social administration from Wilberforce university June, 1936.

Completed Field Work

In order to apply for her degree in social administration, she completed her field work under the supervision of Miss Kathleen Smith in the Mother Pension department under Judge Wright.

The work involved in this appointment is not new to Mrs. Valentine, due to her wide experience and her contacts both among the white and Negro groups of Greene county.

She has made several surveys in relief work in the county. Since her graduation she has been active in volunteer case work and civic affairs.

She is an active member of the Ohio Welfare conference, the N. A. A. C. P., Ohio State Democratic League, Democratic State committeewoman and a member of the Delta Sigma chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

APPOINTED TO OHIO BOARD OF PAROLES

WILBERFORCE, Ohio—Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom of Wilberforce, in charge of the A. M. E. third Episcopal district, comprising states of Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania, and Kentucky, was appointed March 18 by Gov. L. Davey to membership on the Ohio parole board at a yearly salary of $6,000.

His term of office will expire in 1940. The appointment is in keeping with a promise made by Gov. Davey, that if reelected he would appoint a Negro.

It is the first time in the history of the state a Negro has held the position.

Bishop Ransom Named To Ohio Parole Board

WILBERFORCE, Ohio, March 26—Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom, Wilberforce, in charge of the Third Episcopal district, comprising states of Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Kentucky, was appointed March 18, by Governor L. Davey to membership on the Ohio parole board at a yearly salary of $6,000. His term of office will expire in 1940. The appointment is in keeping with a promise made by Governor Davey, if re-elected he would appoint a member of the Race. It is the first time in the history of the state a Race member has held the position.

Woman Is Appointed Deputy U.S. Marshal

CINCINNATI, O., June 10.—(ANP)—United States Marshal R. Kenneth Kerr yesterday announced the appointment of Mrs. Marian M. Hubbard, 804 Beecher street, Walnut Hills, as a deputy United States marshal to succeed Jesse M. Dickinson, Columbus, Ohio, who resigned recently. Mrs. Hubbard is the first woman of her race to receive this appointment in Ohio.

What Is Behind the Attack On Councilman Bundy?

PEOPLE of the Seventeenth Ward, long a Republican stronghold under the guidance of Councilman Leroy N. Bundy, are getting a close-up view these days at the way politics are played in a big city when the powers-that-be make up their collective minds that some Negro is getting too much power.

Mostly these forces work in a subtle and hidden way if they are able to find in the camp of The marked victim some weak and pliable followers who can be persuaded to play the Judas.

For many years it has been a sort of open secret that the growing political power of Councilman Bundy had become a thorn in the side of certain powerful interests in Cleveland. Bundy is shrewd—resourceful—and a splendid organizer—and his uncanny ability to play the political game has been one of the factors in the political alignment which the newspapers are accustomed to refer to as "The Finkle-Bundy-Payne-De Maioribus Bloc" in the City Council.

7-9-37

So, over and above the sudden interest which certain political factions have now presumed to take in the welfare of the 17th Ward, on the worn out complaint that Bundy is not always accessible to his ward precinct committeemen, is the hidden hand of rich and powerful interests pulling the strings which they have somehow tied to the coat-tails of ambitious members of the Bundy organization.

Cleveland, Ohio

Remove all the blarney—analyze the overwhelming zeal that the daily newspapers, and those who control them, are showing in the "Get Bundy" hue and cry—and one finds the same interests which have largely controlled the political reins in Cleveland—a control which has, ironically enough, always depended upon the votes which Bundy and his political colleagues have in the past rolled up for the benefit of that machine.

It is not easy for those interests now to "pull the wool" over the eyes of intelligent Negroes, for they see in this subtle effort to destroy Bundy not so much a fight against Bundy as an effort to destroy Negro leadership in politics.

It is not a far cry from the crushing of Bundy, if made possible by Negro betrayal, to a subsequent attempt to wreck all vestiges of Negro political leadership in Cleveland.

Let the people of the Seventeenth Ward run their minds back over the recent history of the Negro's rise to political power in Cleveland — and check the planned incidents that have undermined that power and sought to cut it into shreds. Behold the situation in the Eighteenth Ward, made so by the muddling interference of the same interests which are now after Bundy.

THE EAGLE holds no brief for Councilman Bundy. He has even refused to be interviewed about the present situation. Yet we see plainly that represented in Bundy and his political associates is the vital germ of the Negro's growing political power—a thing that even if bitter to the taste at present, has been found good for other peoples in Cleveland.

Such political power—strong enough to throw a mayoralty election in the balance—seems at this reckoning one of the certain ways out to a place in the sun for the Negro in Cleveland—and THE EAGLE earnestly desires to sound a note of warning to those lieutenants in the Bundy ranks, who have turned turtle on their leader at the bidding of political higher-ups, to STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN — and then refuse to become parties to the planned destruction of the growth of Negro political power that it has taken long and arduous year to build up!

Political-1937
Office Holding.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Negroes Wage Battle For Right To Vote; New Trial Granted

Federal Judge R. L. Williams Disqualified Constitutionality of Oklahoma Law Challenged; Citizens Claim "Miscarriage of Justice"

Plaindealer 3-5-37

MUSKOGEE, Okla., March 5.—(By Continental Press)—Another federal judge was assigned to hear the now famous Wagoner county case in which Negro citizens who were denied their right to vote are challenging the constitutionality of the Oklahoma registration law passed in 1916 when the present Federal judge, Robert L. Williams, frequently mentioned for elevation to a higher court, was governor of Oklahoma.

Williams has disqualified himself and granted a new trial last October 19, at which time attorneys for I. W. Lane, aged Negro citizen of Wagoner county, had declared that in Judge Williams' court, "There is a total miscarriage of justice."

Judge Williams refused to submit to a jury Lane's suit for $10,000 damage against Judge John Moss and two election officials, holding that the Oklahoma registration law enacted in 1916 was constitutional and that there existed no remedy for Lane before a federal court, as Lane had not exhausted the remedy available to him under the election laws.

Lane brought suit in 1934 during the month of August, insisting he had been denied his constitutional right to register that year in the general election and charged in his bill of allegations that Negro citizens were the victims of a widespread conspiracy designed to deny Negroes suffrage at the ballot. The plaintiff specifically named Judge Moss as the head of the conspiracy and Jess Wilson, former Wagoner county registrar and Marion Parks, a precinct registrar, as co-conspirators.

Judge Williams before whom the case was brought several times had been importuned to disqualify himself, but he declined, saying, "I don't understand that a personal opinion disqualifies a judge on the bench."

Last October 15, after having had the case under "advisement," Judge Williams was asked by attorneys representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to explain his actions for holding the case under "advisement" for eight months without rendering any kind of judgment. Williams refusesd to submit the case to a jury. Lane attorneys claim Oklahoma's registration laws are the "offspring of the 'Grandfather Clause" and were "enacted in open defiance of a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States." The NAACP is backing the suit and plans to carry the suit to the United States Supreme Court in event there is handed down another unfavorable decision or verdict. The case has attracted national attention, having been long drawn out. Oklahomans are girding to fight the suit through the highest tribunal of the land. Roscoe Dunjee, militant Oklahoma City editor, is marshalling the NAACP forces throughout the state in behalf of the Wagoner county registration battle on the part of Negro citizens.

CITIZENS FIGHT FOR RIGHT TO CAST BALLOTS

3-6-37
Houston

Oklahoma Judge Is Disqualified To Hear Case

MUSKOGEE, Okla.,—(By Continental Press)—Another federal Judge was assigned to hear the now famous Wagner county case in which Negro citizens who were denied their right to vote are challenging the constitutionality of the Oklahoma registration law passed in 1916 when the present Federal Judge, Robert L. Williams, frequently mentioned for elevation to a higher court, was governor of Oklahoma.

Williams has disqualified himself and granted a new trial last October 19 at which time attorneys for I. W. Lane, aged Negro citizen of Wagner county had declared that in Judge Williams' court, "There is a total miscarriage of justice."

Judge Williams refused to submit to a jury Lane's suit for $10,000 damage against Judge John Moss and two election officials, holding that the Oklahoma registration law enacted in 1916 was constitutional and that there existed no remedy for Lane in a Federal court as Lane had not exhausted the remedy available to him under the election right to register that year in the general election and charged in his bill of allegations that Negro citizens were the victims of a wide spread sonspiracy designed to deny Negroes suffrage at the ballot.The plaintiff specifically anmed Judge Moss as the head of the conspiracy and Jess Wilson,former Wagoner County registrar and Marion Parks.Judge Williams before whom the case was brought several times had been importuned to disqualify himself, but he declined saying, "I don't understand that a personal opinion disqualifies a judge on the bench." Last October 15 after having had the case under "advisement" Judge Williams was asked by attorneys representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to explain his action s for holding the case under "advisement" for eight months without rendering any kind of judgement. Williams refused to submit the case to a jury. Lane attorneys claim Oklahoma's registration laws are the "offspring of the Grandfather Clause." and were "enacted in open defiance of a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States." The N.A.A.C.P. is backing the suit to the United States Supreme Court un event there is handed down another unfavorable decision or verdict.

Political - 1937

Office Holding

Oklahoma

BOLEY HAS NEW POSTMASTER

Courier

BOLEY, Okla., Feb. 11—(By T. A. Douglas for ANP)—Prof. E. C. Kennedy was recently appointed postmaster here, by Postmaster General Farley, succeeding L. L. Dolphin, the acting postmaster since April, 1936, and who filled the vacancy caused by the death of P. O. Anderson, Jr. The new appointee has been connected with the various school systems of the state for nine years and also served as science instructor at Boley High school. He resigned the principalship at a junior high school to become postmaster. Kennedy holds an A. B. degree from Western University, a B. S., from Langston and is a prominent Democrat and civic leader here.

2-13-37

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Political-1937

Office Holding.

Pennsylvania.

Rainey Renamed to Athletic Post

Afro-American

1-16-37

Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA—Joseph H. Rainey, Eddie McClosky, and Dr. William McClelland, members of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission, were re-appointed Tuesday, by Governor Earle, for another two-year term, ending January 15, 1939.

McClosky, the chairman, has been at odds with the other two commissioners on several occasions during the past two years, and at one time was suspended without pay for 30 days by Governor Earle. McClosky was the sole member of the commission who upheld the decision in the recent John Henry Lewis-Al Ettore scrap, here.

COURIER WRITER GETS EXCLUSIVE POLITICAL STORY

Courier

4-24-37

Pittsburgh Pa.

By **MARIE B. TANCIL**

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 22.—Today there are more Negroes employed here at the State's Capital than ever before in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Despite rampant predictions hurled here and there during the past campaign, our men and women have taken and are holding important and responsible positions in all departments of the state government.

The enactment of the Federal Sociay Security Act, one phase of which is administered in Pennsylvania as the Unemployment Compensation Act, has tended to increase our representative ranks more than 100 per cent. Among the stenographers, typists, secretaries, attorneys, messengers, and file clerks in the division are seen many a sepia face, representing practically every county in the state.

Upon investigation we find that our men and women have all the necessary qualifications and ability to do a good job behind their respective desks.

Among the outstanding employees on the Capitol Hill is Attorney Frank D, Taylor, of Philadelphia, who is an associate counsel on the legal staff of the Unemployment Compensation Division of the Department of Labor and Industry. Before coming to Harrisburg, he was known as an active member of the Philadelphia County bar since 1922, a member of the supreme court of the state of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia County courts, and the United States court of the eastern district of the state of Pennsylvania. Mr. Taylor's educational background is exemplary of that of many of the employees on duty in Harrisburg. He received his doctorate in law from Yale University law school when he graduated in 1921.

When interview by your Courier correspondent, Mr. Taylor made the following statement: "The Negro as a group should be urged to be especially conscientious in the strict and expeditious administration of the unemployment compensation law, as they are to be more identified with the employee element than they are to be with the employer class.

Since the primary purpose of the law is to benefit the greatest number of citizens who are employees, the general welfare spirit of the law is aimed at the relief of so-called, heretofore, general masses in need.

The desired purposes of the law can only be accomplished by faithful and earnest cooperation, by making the proper reports, contribution returns and payment of contributions forthwith."

Junius Lee of Pittsburgh is a familiar personage on the hill since he holds the responsible position of sergeant-at-arms in the House of Representatives. Also in the House we find Miss Jessie Wigginton, who is doing an efficient job as House stenographer.

From Philadelphia County we have employed in the unemployment compensation division a corps of stenographers, among them, Misses Ann Threadgill, Beulah Franklin, Marion Hall and Mrs. H. P. Gorgas; typists, Misses Clara Mason, Virginia Allen and Mabel Simmons. Among the messengers are Francis Griffin, Robert Allman, son of Representative William Allman, and Ralph T. Jefferson.

Allegheny, Washington, Erie, Bedford, Bucks, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin and Carbon counties are just a few of those represented in the newest and the most rapidly growing division—unemployment compensation—in the state government.

Pennsylvania has selected her employees on the basis of their qualifications, such as training, education and experience, instead of the old measuring rule of color. This state is establishing a precedent and an example that could well be followed by the other states of our nation.

DARBY SOLON IN BOSTON

The Chronicle

John Drew Has Been Councillor for Four Years

Boston, Mass.

7-3-37

John Drew, City Councillor of Darby, Penn., was a visitor in Boston this week. He has been a member of the City Council for four years, and is chairman of the Highways and Sidewalks Committee.

Darby is one of the important suburbs of Philadelphia. There are nine Councilmen from the three wards which comprise the town, and Mr. Drew, who ran on the Democratic ticket, lead his colleagues. He has lived in Darby for over four decades and has carefully watched its growth.

Mr. Drew is a contractor, but he has dabbled in the ice business, and was one of the first in the country to engage in the interstate bus business when he ran a line of busses from Philadelphia to the far South. He eventually sold out this latter business. Laughingly, he referred to the fact that he has always been engaged in "business on wheels."

An interesting raconteur, the Councilman told of his experiences with white Southerners who were referred to him for information in the bus business. He is also a great admirer of President Roosevelt and Governor Earle of Pennsylvania for their broad humanitarian policies.

The distinguished visitor was brot to the office of the Chronicle by Edward Dixon, teacher in the Boston school system.

Austin Norris Named to Tax Revision Board

4-24-37

PHILADELPHIA—Deputy Attorney-General Austin Norris was this week named to the new board of revision of taxes for a term of six years at a salary of $10,000 a year by City Controller Robert C. White, white.

Mr. Norris who lives at 418 S. Fifteenth Street is a graduate of Lincoln University, and the Yale Law School. Appointed to the board along with him was Charles A. Hild, white.

The new board, created by the recent legislature and upheld last week by the State Supreme Court, will have charge of revising all real estate tax assessments in the city.

Controller White praised the two men as appointees "who meet every qualification and whose vast experience and practical knowledge will help the board in the big tasks which lie ahead of it."

The legislature provided for a board of seven members, to be named by the controller and city treasurer. Last week, however, the Supreme Court said that three members of the old board abolished by the Legislature must continue as members of the new one.

Will Sit in Two Weeks

According to Mr. Norris, the board will sit as a quasi-judicial body within the next two weeks in Room 821 City Hall. His office will be in Room 114.

NEGRO HAS $10,000 JOB

10-9-37

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—A hot fight is now in progress in this traditional Republican city between the Republicans and the New Deal forces. A large number of prominent Negroes have deserted to the Democratic party. Eleven of the thirty Negro lawyers are in the Democratic ranks. Eight of them have jobs as follows:

J. Austin Norris, Board for Revision of Taxes, $10,000 a year; Henry I. [illegible], member of State Board of Public Assistance; Walter [illegible], Ass't. U. S. District Atty., $3,200 Theodore Spaulding, Atty. for Home Loan Board, $3,000; Robt. N. C. Nix, Deputy Atty. General, $2,400; Frank Taylor, Atty. for Social Security Bureau; Rufus Watson, Atty. for NYA; and John Francis Williams, Deputy Atty. General. Two Tipstaffs court attaches, have been named to these lifetime posts at $3,000 per year.

R.D. Baskervill Attorney, Gets $2000 Position

Is Political Protege Of Councilman Irvin; U. Of P. Graduate

Robert D. Baskervill, 31-year-old attorney, was appointed Assistant City Solicitor at a salary of $2000 by Mayor Wilson, Monday.

Tribune

Baskervill is a political protege of Councilman James H. Irvin and is legal adviser to the Colored-American Citizens of Philadelphia, a political group of which Irvin is president.

The appointee is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, having gained his bachelor's master's and law degrees in the schools there. He finished law in 1933.

11-11-37

He lives at 60 N. 36th street, though his birthplace is in Baskervill, Va.

He is editor of the Oracle, Omega Psi Phi fraternity organ; director of the Achievement Project and president of the local Interfraternity Council.

He has been junior partner in the law firm of Rhodes and Baskervill since the beginning of the year.

The first one to congratulate Fletcher M. Amos after he was sworn in as tipstaff of the newly created Court of Common Pleas was his wife and son, shown above. Mr. Amos, the first of our group to hold this position, was a former co-leader of the forty-seventh ward in Philadelphia and recently withdrew from the race for magistrate. The position pays $3,000 a year. At right (rear) is State Representative Marshall Shepard.

Young Philadelphian Appointed Constable

10-16-37

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 14—(By ANP)—H. Wilbur White, 2029 N. 18th street, was appointed constable of the 32nd ward, eleventh division to fill the unfinished term of Vincent P. Minehan. The motion was made by John E. Sheridan, leader of the ward.

Courier 10-16-37 Pittsburgh Pa.

Mr. White is the Democratic committeeman of the 11th division and will serve as constable until January, 1940. He is one of the young Democrats who has been active for several years.

Negroes Lose Commissioner Billet Here

Tribune

Allen To Be Secretary Of Body; Rainey Administration Praised

12-4-37

The indecision surrounding the identity of the next Athletic Commissioner was dissipated this week with the announcement that Jules Aronson, present Commission secretary, will be the new appointee. Jack Kelly's recommendation of Aronson is tantamount to appointment. He will receive $5,000 a year.

Philadelphia Pa.

Bill Dooly, sports columnist, while applauding Aronson's appointment in one of the local dailies, found it "apropos to devote a few words to Joe Rainey, who shortly will be sitting on the magisterial bench."

STEPPED UP

RUSSELL ALLEN

"Rainey," wrote Dooly, "proved himself a conscientious and most capable commissioner. He administered the office with a fairness and patient good humor that reflected credit upon the commission, himself and his race."

12-4-37

"He did a good job and leaves behind him a record of which he may be duly proud."

Russell Allen, Coroner's detective, has been recommended for the positi of secretary to the commission by Jack Kelly. He will receive a salary of $3,000 per year.

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

Rhode Island.

PRUDENCE HIGGINS

Rhode Island Girl Is First Negro Named To State Welfare Dept.

Age

5-1-37

New York, N.Y.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Miss Prudence C. A. Higgins was appointed last week as a social worker in the Rhode Island Department of Public Welfare, the first colored person to be given such a position in this state.

Miss Higgins is a product of the public schools of Providence, being graduated from the Classical High School in 1931. She entered Howard University, Washington, D. C. in the Fall of the same year, and received her bachelor of arts degree in 1935. Choosing social service as her life work, Miss Higgins majored in sociology, and in the Fall of 1935 entered Simmons College, Boston, Mass., and was awarded her Bachelor of Science in Sociology in June 1936.

An active and enthusiastic member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorrority. Miss Higgins is the accomplished daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William H. Higgins, of 50 Woodman street, Providence. Both parents are active in the social, religious, and political life of their city and state.

Political-1937

Office Holding

Tennessee

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean
February 11, 1937

Solomon P. Harris, Last Negro Councilman, Dies

Funeral services for Solomon Parker Harris, last negro member of the Nashville City Council, who died Monday afternoon at his home on South Tenth Street, will be conducted this afternoon from the First Baptist Church, Eighth Avenue, North. The Rev. R. C. Barbour, pastor of the church, will deliver the sermon.

Prof. Harris, who had been confined to his home for several months, was elected to the city council in 1911 and served until 1913. For a number of years he practiced law in Oklahoma and Arkansas. Later he came to Nashville and served as bookkeeper for the National Baptist Publishing Board for a period of 17 years. Leaving the publishing concern he served two years as dean of Roger Williams University, and one year as corresponding secretary of the Sunday School Publishing Board. He became assistant corresponding secretary of the Sunday School Board in 1916 and served until his death.

Surviving are his wife, and two sons, Solomon P., Jr., and Robert W. Harris.

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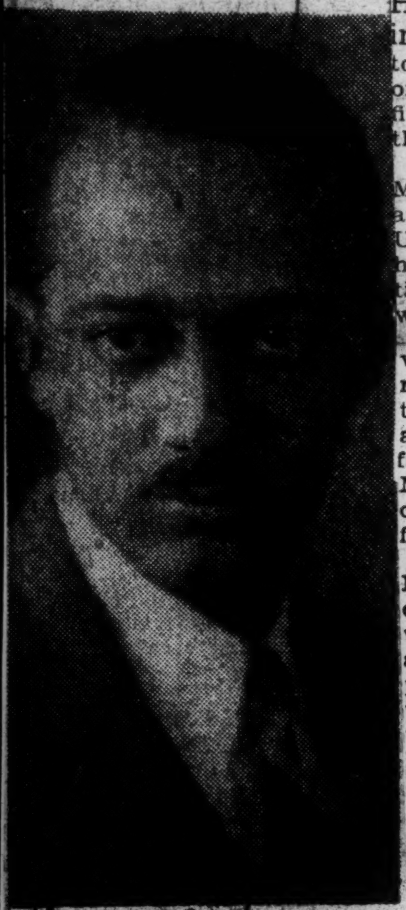
6

Virgin Islands.
6

CONFIRMED



Courier

WILLIAM HASTIE

Appointment of William Hastie as federal district judge in the Virgin Islands by President Roosevelt was confirmed by the Senate last Friday afternoon. Mr. Hastie is the first colored man appointed to the federal bench and the youngest federal judge. He is 32 years old.

3-27-37

NATIVES OPPOSE COLORED JUDGE

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25—The nomination of William H. Hastie, an assistant solicitor in the Interior Department, to be judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands, was confirmed by unanimous consent in the Senate last Friday.

Opposition to confirmation of Mr. Hastie petered out when Senator William H. King, Democrat, Utah, sat as a sub-committee to hold a hearing on the nomination. The only testimony given was favorable to the nominee.

Confirmation of the nomination was held up by letters written by natives of the Virgin Islands to the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Insular Affairs opposing the appointment of Mr. Hastie on the ground that a colored person was not desired to fill the place.

Mr. Hastie is a graduate of Dunbar High School of this city, of Amherst College and the Harvard Law School. Prior to his appointment in the Interior Department he was a member of the law firm of Houston & Houston. Mr. Hastie is the youngest Federad judge ever appointed and confirmed.

3-27

Sworn In

JUDGE HASTIE

HASTIE TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Tribune

4-3-37

Washington D.C.

Before his wife, mother, government officials and a few friends, William H. Hastie, local attorney, was sworn in as Federal judge for the Virgin Islands in the office of Attorney General Homer S. Cummings this morning (Thursday).

Hugo Carusi, white, administrative assistant to the Attorney General ,administered the oath of office and the Attorney General presented the young judge with his certificate of appointment.

Among those witnessing the affair were Ernest Gruening, director of United States Division of Territorial Possessions; Lawrence W. Cramer, governor of the Virgin Islands; Judge Armond W. Scott, Judge James A. Cobb, Dr. Robert Weaver, Stanley Brooks, John M. Wright, Louis Mehlinger, Belford V. Lawson, Mrs. Lilliain Russell, Bernard Jefferson, Joseph H. B. Evans, Mrs. A. B. Smith, Clyde McDuffie and Edward P. Lovett.

A NEGRO FEDERAL JUDGE

Informer

With the confirmation of William H. Hastie by the United States Senate as Federal Judge of general jurisdiction in the Virgin Islands another avenue of service was opened to Negro citizens. On the face of it there is no reason why Negroes should not have occupied federal benches with general jurisdiction before; but every Negro knows that Negroes haven't held such positions before for the very good reason that prejudice kept them out. What has caused Mr. Hastie's elevation?

4-3-37

Not his unquestioned competency, for there have been others competent before now. It is the combination of President Roosevelt's courage and the appreciation of Democrats for the support which Negroes gave his candidacy. Mr. Hastie's appointment and confirmation is at once a recognition of past support and a promise for the future. For Mr. Hastie's excellent administration of the office will be irrefutable argument for appointment of a Negro to federal judicial office in America sooner or later.

Houston, Texas

It need not be argued that the appointment of Mr. Hastie is conclusive proof that Negroes must always support the Democratic party. But those, who feared that Negroes supporting the Democratic party would betray the race into destruction by the Democratic party, may be re-assured by the appointment. Now that the election is over the citizens may examine the records without the noise and clashing statements from those biased in favor of their respective candidates and find that Negroes aren't faring any worse than under Republicans.

There are those who have argued that we should not support the Democratic party as long as they disfranchise us. But we have been in the group which thought that Roosevelt's administration would give Negroes all over America a fairer deal than any other. It was our belief that they might not be able to compel the Texas Democrats to let us in the primary but could do a lot to help us get a fairer proportion of the benefits from Federal controlled offices, relief, conservation funds and work. We believe the facts show that Negroes have received more generous treatment under the Roosevelt administration than under any other since reconstruction. Now we must thank Democrats for a federal judge.

LEAVES SOON FOR VIRGIN ISLANDS POST

The Defender

Wife And Mother Present At Ceremony Held On Thursday

Chicago, Ill.

4/10/37

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—After much heckling resulting in his confirmation, William H. Hastie, assistant solicitor in the Interior Department, was sworn in as Judge of the Virgin Island last Thursday morning. The oath of office was administered by Hugo Carusi, as ministrative assistant to Attorney General Homer S. Cummings. The certificate of office was presented to Hastie by the Attorney General himself.

Hastie's nomination through President Roosevelt to be judge of the district court of the Virgin Islands was confirmed by unanimous consent in the Senate on March 19. Opposition to his confirmation petered out when Senator William H. King, Democrat, of Utah, sat as a sub-committee to hold a hearing on the nomination. Confirmation of the nomination was held up by letters written by natives of the Virgin Islands to the Senate judiciary committee and the committee on insular affairs, which opposed the appointment on the ground that a Race person was not desired to fill the place.

Mr. Hastie is a graduate of Dunbar high school of this city, of Amherst college, and the Harvard law school. Prior to his apointment in the interior department, he was a member of the law firm of Houston and Houston.

Among those witnessing the ceremonies were: the wife and mother of the judge; Ernest Gruening, director of the United States Division of Territorial Possessions: Lawrence W. Cramer, governor of Virgin Islands: Judge Armond W. Scott, Judge James A. Cobb, Dr. Robert Weaver, Stanley Brooks, John M. Wright, Louis H. Mehlinger, Belford Lawson, Mrs. Lillian Russell, Bernard Jefferson, Joseph H. B. Evans, Mrs. A. B. Smith Clyde McDuffie and Edward Lovett

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President Roosevelt Nominates Young Negro Lawyer As District Atty. Of Virgin Islands

Age 5-1-37

New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Early action is expected in the Senate on the nomination made by President Roosevelt of Attorney James A. Bough, 30 year old Negro lawyer, as district attorney of the Virgin Islands.

Mr. Bough was born in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, where he completed his primary education. In 1926, he graduated from the Polytechnic Institute in San German, Porto Rico with honors. Coming to the attention of Casper Holstein, New York sportsman, he entered Columbia University in 1928 and graduated in 1931 with Phi Beta Kappa honors. In June, 1934, he received his law degree and later that month married Miss Daphne Birch, prominent Harlem socialite.

As special correspondent of The New York Age in the Virgin Islands he was widely read and his columns elicited much comment both here and abroad.

With the exception of the Governor, the highest ranking officials in the Islands are Negroes.

JAMES A. BOUGH

Judge in Robes

Amsterdam News

RUSHED FROM St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, here is the first photograph of Judge William H. Hastie, first Negro appointed a Federal judge, in his robes of office. The picture was taken on the steps of the Executive Mansion, with Governor Lawrence W. Cramer nearby. No topcoats or vests needed in the islands, you see. Judge Hastie was welcomed to the Virgin Islands by members of the Colonial Council and a large number of townspeople. Until his wife joins him, later in the year, he will occupy a suite in the Grand Hotel.

5-8-37 New York

5-8-37

Political-1937

Office Holding

Virgin Islands.
6

Informer
2-20-37
Houston
Texas

A NEGRO FEDERAL JUDGE

Secretary Harold Ickes has recommended William Henry Hastie, Negro lawyer of Washington, D. C., for United States Federal Judge of the Virgin Islands President Roosevelt has nominated Mr. Hastie for the position. It is expected that the nomination will be confirmed by the senate. If it does, Mr. Hastie will be the first Negro Federal Judge to preside over a federal court of general jurisdiction.

Mr. Hastie's nomination is on merit and a recognition of ability as well as a courageous acknowledgement of the right of Negroes to occupy places of honor in the government. Mr. Hastie is a magna cum laude graduate of Amherst and an honor graduate of Harvard Law School. He is rated as one of the ablest lawyers in America regardless of race. The Virgin Islands population is nearly 9[illegible] Negro. Negroes earned the right to the consideration by supporting President Roosevelt's candidacy for re-election.

The above is a bare recitation of the facts. But back of those facts is a heroic story of explosive interest to Negroes Much has been said about the progress the man in the streets has made under the Roosevelt administration. But Negroes are beginning to sense that under Roosevelt's statesmanlike leadership a small army of forgotten men have been advancing through the ranks of the larger group to a position far ahead of any place they have reached since Reconstruction days. We, of course, refer to Negroes.

Roosevelt has put Negroes back in practically every position they ever held under Republicans during the last three decades and have advanced them to many positions they never occupied before. To change the simile used above, the Negro's civic and political horizon has been pushed back. Negroes have advanced to new frontiers. And they are still on the march!

We are again reminded of the dire predictions of the leaders, who supported Republicans during the last election. They said the Democrats were our proverbal enemies and would oppress us and strip us of what little prestige we had if they were returned to office. We covet more oppression such as the appointment of Mr. Hastie!

When The INFOMER pointed out that we had entered a new day with a new type of Democrat at Washington and advocated support of Roosevelt, these dumb, selfish leaders called The INFORMER a traitor. Never giving a thought to the interests of the masses of Negroes, they selfishly championed the Republicans with a stubborn blindness and let themselves see nothing except a chance to get some of the Republican money.

The INFORMER is politically independent. It supported the Democrats in the last election because every element of reason and experience indicated that the Democrats would serve Negroes better than the Republicans. When the Democrats get where they, too, take our votes for granted and refuse us any consideration, The INFORMER will drop them cold. That's the advantage of not having been bought and paid for.

Why are we back on the election? Because we believe that the difference of opinion developed between The INFORMER and the so-called leaders during election was more fundamental than a mere clash of personalities. We think those so-called leaders did the race a disservice that was dangerous. We learn by surveying the past and gleaning the lessons it teaches.

Mr. Hastie's elevation confirms The INFORMER'S contention that we have entered a new area as a nation. That new conditions call for new attitudes and new techniques. That we can no longer shape our course on the cry that the Republicans freed us or that the Texas Democrats have barred us. That our fathers voted Republican and therefore we must. Those attitudes are not based on reason; they are the wails of defeatist, emotional old men.

We must face the present with courage and hope. We must have confidence that there is a way out. If, as is true, the Democrats have absolute control of the government and our rights, and we can't storm the wall or bar, that they have put about them, then we must sap (undermine) that wall. If we can't tear the wall down, we must join the horde of returning victors and enter the gate as allies.

A good general never abandons himself to despair but always keeps a belief that there is a way and keeps hunting for it. The commander of the Japanese fleet in the war against Russia was asked by someone, who knew of the tremendous odds he had been up against and the many times he had been baffled, how he finally won such a crashing victory. He said, "After a thousand thoughts, I finally got one fixed purpose: to hunt down and destroy every fragment of the enemy separately.

Moses wandered around the land of Canaan forty years, but he never turned back and the Hebrew Children finally got in. We have been in America over 300 years without ever having a federal judge, but it looks like we are about to have one under the Democrats, "our proverbial enemies." While the Negroes of Texas rejoice over this new sign of a better day, they might ask last Fall's prophets of evil just what year it was that the Republicans appointed their last Negro Federal Judge. The INFORMER is not above saying, "I told you so."

RAPS HASTIE AS U. S. JUDGE

Amsterdam News
3-6-37
New York, N.Y.

Claims Naming Negro Was a "Blunder"

(Special to The Amsterdam News.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3—Charging the President had "blundered" in naming William H. Hastie to the judgeship post in the Virgin Islands, Senator William King, Democrat, of Utah, appeared before a Senate judiciary committee hearing on Monday and said a number of objections to confirmation of Mr. Hastie by the Senate had come from Negroes in this country and the Virgin Islands.

Senator King is chairman of a judiciary sub-committee of the Upper House of Congress and is chairman of the Senate Territories Committee.

Other Charges.

Other charges given at the hearing centered around Governor Lawrence W. Cramer of the Virgin Islands up for Senate confirmation, and former Islands Judge A. C. Levitt's testimony against Cramer, holding the governor had interferred with the Virgin Islands court. Both Mr Cramer and Mr. Levitt are white.

Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth avenue, on Tuesday sent the following telegram to Senator King regarding his attitude the confirmation of William Hastie as federal judge in the Virgin Islands:

White Sends Protest.

"Today's Washington papers quote you as saying that the nomination of William H. Hastie as federal judge of the Virgin Islands is a 'blunder.' May we inquire why you raised the race issue in this matter? May we also ask when the Federal government has set up any other standards of fitness than ability and high character which Mr. Hastie possesses to a superlative degree?

"Your raising color as a bar to the Hastie appointment is tantamount to saying to 12,000,000 American Negroes that no matter what they may attain in the face of all the barriers which cruel and inhuman race prejudice devises, they cannot, because of color, be confirmed to high judicial position.

Want To Be Heard.

"It is frankly astounding that a member of the Senate should take such a position. Should any public hearings be held on this nomination, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People respectfully requests permission to be heard."

A solicitor in the Department of Interior, Mr. Hastie is regarded as one of the most brilliant lawyers in this country. He holds degrees and high honors from Amherst College and Harvard Law School. Aside from winning coveted election to the editorial staff of the Harvard Law Review, Mr. Hastie is the youngest graduate to receive his doctorate in the science of juridicial proceedings. He is now thirty-two years of age.

Democratic Club Objects to Negro Judge In Islands

HASTIE LAUDED AS MODERN VAN DYKE

E. W. Martin Charge Ickes with Mixing Two Branches of Government

Tribune
3-13-37
Washington D.C.

Senator William H. King, Democrat, Utah, chairman of the subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary, announced Wednesday that his committee would report favorably on the nomination by the President of William H. Hastie to the Federal Bench in the Virgin Islands.

The announcement followed a hearing conducted by the Senator after the committee had received letters and telegrams protesting the nomination.

Though the messages of opposition were voluminous, none of those opposing the nomination were present at the hearing as is requested in cases of opposition.

Chief objection to the nomination was registered by the Roosevelt-Garner Democratic Club, of the Virgin Islands. Their opposition was based solely on color.

"The Negro population in the Islands," the letter contained, does not want a Negro for judge. We have been suffering a real dictatorship under Negro Judge Jackson of the Police Court. We repudiate Ickes' efforts to put on us the yoke of a half-baked Negro judge. It is a crying outrage to the Virgin Islands."

The letter was signed by Morris E. Davis, president of the club.

Edward W. Martin, man-about-town, charged in a letter to the committee, that the Secretary of the Interior should not be permitted to recommend persons for the Island judiciary. That Ickes was trying to coordinate the executive and judicial branches of the Islands so that both would be under his thumbs, was also charged by Martin.

King's Information

Making his stand on the nomination of Hastie clear, Senator King said that his prior statement that the nomination was a blunder was based solely on information he received from natives of the Islands, during a visit there last summer. At that time, he said, he was informed by individuals there that a Negro judge was not wanted and would not be favorably received by the Islanders.

"I have no prejudice on account of color. The color argument came from the Islands. I recommended a Negro judge for Washington and he was confirmed. That should indicate my attitude so far as confirming a Negro judge is concerned."

Others present at the hearing, lauded Hastie as "the modern Van Dyke"; "the man that has no peer'; "most competent Negro lawyer in the country, and one of the most competent, independent of color."

Questioned by Senator King as to Hastie's ability to rule on all questions that might come before him, Leon A. Ransome, professor of law at Howard University, told the Senator that Hastie could "sit in any court in any part of the country and rule fairly and competently on any question that might arise in any court."

Rufus G. Poole, young white assistant solicitor in the Interior Department, who shares offices with Hastie, appeared in his personal capacity to testify to the ability and character of Hastie.

To Report Favorably

Others who spoke for Hastie were William H. Houston, president of the Washington Bar Association; Edward P. Lovett, a member of the Washington Bar; Thurgood Marshall, representing the National Bar Association, Walter White, secretary of the NAACP and others were prepared to testify, but were cut off when King said he had sufficient testimony to report favorably on the nomination.

The sub-committee, composed of Senator King and Senator Warren Austin, of Vermont, will make their report to the Judiciary Committee next Monday, and the Judiciary Committee will probably place Hastie's name before the Senate next Tuesday, Senator King said.

'BLOCK HASTIE' MOVE FADES OUT

Amsterdam News
3-13-37

(Wire to Amsterdam News.)

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Opposition to William H. Hastie, young Negro assistant solicitor of the Department of the Interior, named for judge of the Virgin Islands by President Roosevelt, completely faded out today when a hearing was held by the Senate judiciary committee.

Senator William King of Utah, who had called the appointment a "blunder," closed the hearing with a statement that a favorable report on Mr. Hastie would be made. No other opponents were present, but a cable and letter were read from Morris Davis, militant Democrat of St. Thomas, protesting the appointment.

Letters supporting appointment of a Negro as judge were read from Ashley L. Totten, president of V. I. Civic Association, and James D. Simmons, financial secretary of the American West Indian Benevolent Society, both of New York City. Thurgood Marshall, secretary, National Bar Association; Walter White, secretary, N. A. A. C. P., and Prof. Leon Ransom of the Howard Law School, were among persons endorsing Mr. Hastie.

Judge Hastie

The confirmation of William H. Hastie by the Senate, this week, for judge of the Federal Court of the Virgin Islands is not only another forward step in the annals of the American Negro, but marks this 32-year-old jurist as the only member of his race to be named to a Federal bench, and one of the youngest Americans to sit as a jurist.

The President of the United States, who named him; Secretary of Interior Ickes, who is said to have recommended him; the Senate Judiciary Committee, which reported him favorably; and the Senate body, which confirmed him; are all to be highly praised for this record-making political move.

Especially is his appointment deemed worthy in the face of protests from a white Democratic political organization, which objected to Judge Hastie on the grounds of his color alone, and in the face of opposition from some of the natives from the Virgin Islands.

Judge Hastie, in his former position, as solictor in the Interior Department, has been instrumental in formulating legislation for the Islands, and is therefore considered experienced in affairs there.

The young jurist will not find his job easy. Trouble has been a-plenty in this little colored territorial possession. Former judges and governors there have been the butt of much criticism and turmoil both by the Islanders and Americans on the mainland interested in the natives.

It may be, however, that being white, these administrators of law and justice have been unable to act and work with the natives with the sympathy and harmony that would guide a member of their own racial group.

Judge Hastie's carrer will be watched with interest and sympathy by colored and white groups all over the world.

Political - 1937

Office Holding.

Virgin Islands.
6

William H. Hastie Appointed Federal Judge of Virgin Islands By President Roosevelt

WILLIAM H. HASTIE

Selection of Brilliant Young Scholar is Surprise to Many Negroes

NEW APPOINTEE HIGHLY PRAISED BY OFFICIALS

Position Pays $7,500 and is Distinct Promotion For Ability

2-13-37

Following his usual custom of smashing precedent, President Roosevelt, late last week, nominated William H. Hastie, six-foot, 32-year-old assistant solicitor in the Interior Department, to be Federal judge of the Virgin Islands.

The President sent Hastie's name to the Senate for confirmation two days after he unleased an attack on the Federal judiciary, in a message to Congress.

Selection a Surprise

His nomination of a Negro to the Federal bench came as a distinct surprise generally, though some knew that such an appointment was under advisement.

From an unquestionable source, the Tribune learned that the President made up his mind, prior to his re-election, to name a colored man to the Island judiciary. The same source disclosed that the spot was being held for Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell in the event he lost in his race for re-election to the House of Representatives. Mitchell, it was recalled, was sent by the President to visit the islands during the summer, and to study the situation there for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not he would like the post.

Appointee Well Qualified

Satisfied that he could hold things down, Mitchell is said to have agreed to acceptance in the event he lost in the Congressional race.

Mitchell having won in the election, the President received from the Interior Depatment, under whose jurisdiction the Virgin Islands come, the name of Hastie for the Federal post.

A distinguished attorney, well-acquainted with Island conditions, Hastie had the strong backing of Secretary Ickes, E. K. Burlew, administrative assistant to the Interior Secetary, and Nathan Margold, solicitor for the Interior Department, under whom he worked.

A graduate of Harvard University School of Law, Hastie was brought to the Interior Department as assistant solicitor on November 16, 1933. He was recommended to that position by Solicitor Margold, also a Harvard graduate and a teacher in the Harvard Law School at the time Hastie was a student.

2-13-37

Praised Highly

Commenting on Hastie's appointment to the Federal bench, Margold told the Tribune:

"I think Hastie is eminently fitted for the position to which he has just been nominated. There is no doubt that he would make a brilliant judge. He understands conditions there, and has had as one of his assignments here the handling of legal details of the Virgin Island projects. He is admirably fitted for the position from the standpoint of his legal ability, judicial temperament, and character. A better man couldn't have been picked.

"If I would be selfish, I would prefer to have him continue here with me, because he has been one of my most valuable aides."

In a letter to the Tribune, a high tribute was paid Hastie by E. K. Burlew, administrative assistant to the Secretary of the Interior. Burlew wrote:

Distinguished Scholar

"Mr. Hastie was appointed assistant solicitor in the office of the solicitor of the Interior Department on November 16, 1933. This appointment, made upon the basis of Mr. Hastie's training and his record for legal ability and scholarship, was not solicited by the appointee who came to the department from private practice in the District of Columbia.

"Mr. Hastie's duties have been of diversified character. The solicitor has found his services of great value in aiding in the preparation of legal opinions upon various questions arising in the many fields covered by activities of this department. Mr. Hastie has been called upon from time to time to aid in drafting proposed legislation and preparing departmental reports upon pending legislation. He is called upon very frequently to furnish advice and counsel for the Division of Territories and Island Possessions. The legal detail for the functioning of the Virgin Islands Company, a governmental agency engaged in a program of economic rehabilitation in the Virgin Islands, has been a particular assignment of his.

Most Valued Aide

"A considerable amount of litigation in the courts of the District of Columbia and elsewhere is handled by the office of the solicitor. From time to time, Mr. Hastie has been of counsel in such cases. A recent case of importance concerning tribal rights of the Osage Indians and involving assets worth several million dollars, was under Mr. Hastie's direction and control from the institution of suit in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia until final disposition of the case by the Court of Appeals in a manner wholly favorable to the contentions of the Government.

"The solicitor rates Mr. Hastie as one of his most valued aides and has given him an exceptionally high efficiency rating. His legal ability, his judgment, and his personality have been commended repeatedly by persons who have come in contact with his work in this department."

Succeeds Judge Jones

Hastie is nominated to succeed Judge George P. Jones of Minnesota, to whom the President gave a recess appointment in September. He will be the fourth Federal judge for the Islands in 19 months. The position pays $7,500. It is not for any definite period, but "at the will of the President." Hastie's present position pays him $4,800 a year.

Native of Knoxville

A native of Knoxville, Tenn., Hastie was brought to Washington early in life by his father who received an appointment in the War Department. His father later received an appointment in the Pension Office, and died shortly afterwards at the time Hastie was just entering the Dunbar High School from where he was graduated.

Hastie's father left sufficient estate to take care of him and his mother. With the counsel of his mother and William L. Houston, attorney, who handled the legal affairs for his family, Hastie went to Amherst where he was graduated with honors, and then entered the Harvard Law School, receiving both bachelor and doctor of law degrees.

Member Law Review

Hastie and Houston's son, Charles, former dean of the Howard Law School, are the only two Negroes who have been members of the editorial board of the Harvard Law Review.

Completing his work at Harvard, Hastie returned to Washington and became associated with the law firm of Houston & Houston, 615 F Street, Northwest, where he remained until his appointment to solicitor's staff of the Interior Department.

In 1935, Hasie eloped to Elkton, Maryland where he was married to Miss Alma Syphax. They make their home at 1221 Fairmont Street, Northwest. Hastie is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

High Honor

Call
2-12-37
Kansas City

The appointment of William H. Hastie to be federal judge in the Virgin islands is in keeping with the Roosevelt administration's general attitude toward Negroes in the public employ. He has broken precedent a number of times and made places for representatives of the race not given before. That liberal attitude won commendation—and votes in the November election.

Negroes in all grades of office are an object lesson teaching the worth of the group they represent. At the same time they are a builder of national life, an incentive to tolerance and appreciation of service without regard for the color of the doer.

The ins of politics are setting a standard which challenges the outs. The Republicans who held national control for several administrations, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover, made a pitiful showing in Negro appointments. They assumed that Negroes were so thoroughly Republican that they would sacrifice both their needs and their ambitions to be loyal to the party. The Democrats have been more practical.

Regardless of political preference the Negro citizen, in every part of the country, cannot help feeling satisfaction that his people are getting up in public life. Franklin D. Roosevelt is continuing the liberal attitude toward Negroes in office which marked his first administration.

SAID TO BE FIRST NEGRO ON FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Courier

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—President Franklin D. Roosevelt broke the customary practice of appointing only white persons to the Federal judiciary when he sent to the Senate last Friday the nomination of William H. Hastie to be District Judge for the Virgin Islands.

Officials said they believed Mr. Hastie is the first colored lawyer to be appointed to the Federal bench, but were "not sure" pending an examination of the records.

Mr. Hastie is 32 years old. He is an Assistant Solicitor in the Interior Department and a professor of law in the Howard University Law School. He is an honor graduate of Dunbar high school, Amherst College and the Harvard Law School.

If confirmed by the Senate, he will be the fourth Federal judge for the Virgin Islands in 19 months. He succeeds Judge George R. Jones, Minnesota, to whom President Roosevelt gave a recess appointment last September.

The appointment of Mr. Hastie is for a term of four years. His salary will be $10,000 a year. He will preside in the two divisions of the District Court for the Virgin Islands—one division constituted by the municipality of Saint Croix and the other division constituted by the municipality of Saint Thomas and Saint John. He will hold court in each division at least once in two months.

His court will have jurisdiction of all criminal cases under the laws of the respective municipalities or under the laws of the United States applicable to the Virgin Islands, all cases in equity, all cases in admiralty, all cases of divorce and annulment of marriage, all cases involving principal sums in excess of $200, all cases involving title to real estate, all appeals from judgments rendered in lower courts, and in criminal cases committed on the high seas beyond the territorial limits of the Virgin Islands on American vessels.

Nearly 95 per cent of the population is wholly or partly colored. According to the census of 1930 the population was 22,012.

Mr. Hastie was born in Knoxville, Tenn.

U. S. JUDGE

William H. Hastie, assistant solicitor in the Interior Department and professor of law at Howard University, who was nominated last Friday by President Roosevelt to be District Judge for the Virgin Islands.

F. D. R. PICKS ISLAND JUDGE

Amsterdam News

William H. Hastie Is To Be Confirmed

2-13-37

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Nominated for federal Judge of the Virgin Islands last week by President Roosevelt, William H. Hastie of this city will leave for his new post immediately after confirmation by the Senate. It is expected that the Senate will confirm the nomination shortly.

Hastie, who was appointed assistant solicitor in the Department of Interior in 1933, is perhaps the first Negro ever nominated for a federal judgeship. He is rated one of the ablest solicitors in the Interior Department, where he has handled efficiently many problems dealing with the Virgin Islands.

No political or outside influence played any part in the selection of Hastie for judge of the Virgin Islands. He was promoted from the ranks upon the recommendation of Secretary of Interior Harold F. Ickes, it was revealed to The Amsterdam News.

Amsterdam News

Hastie was born in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1905. He was brought to Washington when he was twelve years old by his parents. He was graduated from Dunbar High School, from which he received a scholarship to Amherst College. While at Amherst, he won the varsity track letter, and was graduated magna cum laude, being elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity.

2-13-37

After teaching at Bordentown Normal and Industrial School in Bordentown, N. J., for two years, he entered the Harvard Law School, and was graduated in 1929. While in the law school, he was a member of the editorial board of the Harvard Law School Review for two years. His cousin, Charles H. Houston, was the only other Negro ever to have been a member of the editorial board of the Harvard Law School Review, an honor which is bestowed only upon top ranking students.

Hastie returned to Harvard Law School in 1932, and won the doctor of juridical science degree a year later. In addition to his work as assistant solicitor in the Interior Department he teaches at the Howard University Law School and is a member of the law firm of Houston and Houston.

Judge

William H. Hastie

IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

THE NOMINATION LAST WEEK by President Roosevelt of William H. Hastie, a Negro, as a judge for the federal court of the Virgin Islands is in many respects the biggest appointment given Negroes in the present administration. The President let it be known that he followed the precedent established by President Taft that Negroes would be appointed to federal positions in sections of the country where their constituents are largely of the Negro group.

Age

2-20-37

New York Age

The President is to be congratulated in selecting so able a man as the young Negro lawyer. While it remains for the Senate to confirm the nomination before the appointment becomes effective, we are sure that with his training and background, the appointee will carry out the duties of his office with distinction to himself and the government.

While we do not wholly agree with the theory that American Negroes should only serve citizens of their own racial group, we are nevertheless of the opinion that we can gain many political plums if the President follows out this theory. On the same basis he should appoint other federal officials to the Virgin Islands from the Negro group. He should make many appointments of Negroes to Puerto Rico and all the appointments in Haiti from the U. S. Minister down should be Negroes.

If President Roosevelt follows out his present plan of naming Negroes to high judicial and diplomatic posts in the Virgin Islands and other islands in the West Indies, he will restore to our racial group much of the federal patrons that has been lost under the past five presidents.

This appointment is a step in the right direction.

Political - 1937
Office Holding

West Virginia.

West Virginia Democrat Named Chairman Of Military Committee

Defender 1-30-37

Only Member Of Race In Legislature Is Signally Honored

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 29—In the announcement of committees made here this week, Fleming A. Jones, only race member of the West Virginia legislature, member of the House of Delegates from Welch, McDowell county, West Virginia, was appointed by Speaker James K. Thomas as chairman of the House Committee on Military affairs.

Delegate Jones seems to be the only member of his race to become chairman of an important house committee.

This is his second term in the legislature, having been formerly elected in the 1935 session.

During his former term he secured several important pieces of legislation affecting the group, including legislation providing for the establishment of a unit of the National Guard for the Race Assistant Directors of Social Security in counties in the state having a Race population of ten per cent or more.

Delegate Fleming A. Jones practices law in McDowell and is a graduate of the law school of Howard university. He is a Democrat.

W. VA. LAWYER IS APPOINTED

Pitts. Courier 11-20-37

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Nov. 11—Attorney Willard L. Brown, together with six white lawyers, was appointed last week by Mayor Boone Dawson to head a slum clearance program here. A graduate of the Boston Law School, Attorney Brown is the only Negro serving.

He will make a tentative survey and suggest recommendation as to a Negro housing authority set-up. Reports are due Nov. 22.

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation.

American Labor Party.

AMERICAN LABOR PARTY MAKES BID FOR VOTES

By WILLIAM H. FERRIS

Defender
10-30-37
Chgo.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29—The American Labor Party made its bow to Race voters Monday at the Ralph Avenue A. M. E. [illegible] church, Brooklyn, of which Dr. S. L. Corrother is pastor.

Unlike most political meetings there was no playing to the galleries or wild cat oratory, rather it was a political chautauqua, a political forum in which the issues of the day and the problems of the hour were presented in a forceful, logical manner.

As the American Labor party had endorsed Attorney Lennie L. George for the State Constitutional Convention and Attorney C. D. Williams for the assembly, many of the prominent leaders attended the meeting.

Bishop Barrow Presides

Bishop Reginald Grand Barrow of the African Orthodox Church of New York Inc., was toast-master at the banquet preceding the mass meeting. Among the candidates indorsed by the American Labor Party are two men of our group, Attorney C. D. Williams, candidate for the Assembly 17th district and Attorney Lennis L. George, candidate for State Constitutional Convention. "Today Labor is so powerful in England that no party can stand without the backing of Labor. In America, the Labor party is the coming party. It has a new program which will offer something to every one," said Bishop Barrow.

William H. Spencer and Peter Monat said, "The American Labor party holds that there can be no distinction between men." Dr. S. L Corrothers, the pastor of the church, presided at the mass meeting in the main auditorium of the church after the banquet.

Labor Candidate Speaks

Hon. Louis Waldman, candidate for Justice of the New York Supreme court, and Magistrate Charles Solomon spoke on the New York State Constitution to be adopted in April 1938. Attorney George said, "Your faith has disintegrated because you have lost confidence in other people. You will get out of a thing what you put into it. Any man who will tell the truth and follow his principles is the man you ought to follow." Attorney Williams. candidate for the Assembly

said, "The inference tonight is that this is a new day in politics. It is indeed a new day."

Political – 1937
Party Affiliation

Democratic.

"DEMOCRAT WITHOUT GUILE"

Daily World
7-6-37
Atlanta, Ga.

A few weeks ago, we were informed by the general press, that Robinson Crusoe Buck, a monogenarian colored democrat, was visiting Washington and the White House as the guest of Secretary Hull, and the Congressional delegation from Tennessee. Through the courtesy of his grandson, Daniel L. H. West, Government employee, I was accorded the privilege of an interview, with intention of using it as the basis of my release for the ensuing week. Through some typographical mishap, this has been delayed until now.

Robinson Crusoe Buck was born a slave in Putnam Co., Tenn., October 15, 1844 He was the slave son of his master-father, a good-natured, genial German, who looked upon slavery as a patriarchal institution. Young Buck's mother was three-fourths Indian, and the boy, though a slave, was regarded and reared as a member of the family. This dyed-in-the-wool Negro democrat is of about the age, blood composition, and general appearance as his distinguished fellow Tennesseean, the Honorable J. C. Napier, who is just one year his . junior. Mr. Buck is erect of stature, with a keen eye, aquiline nose, clear voice and clean-cut features.

As a faithful and trusted slave Buck took personal charge of his master who was many years his senior, during the progress of the Civil War, and saved him from capture by the Yankees by hiding him in secluded places until they had departed from his plantation. After emancipation, Young Buck remained on the plantation and took care of his master's affairs until the old man died some twenty years later.

Upon the death of his master he engaged in farming on his own hooks which he conducted with considerable success. He never went to school a day in his life, and is therefore wholly illiterate in the technical sense of the term, but he has a keen and lively intelligence and a clear and forceful expression which would put many a collegian to shame.

It may be said, that he inherited his politics from his father-master who was a Whig by political persuasion. He has been a life-long persistent democrat since he cast his first ballot for the Democratic candidate, Horatio Seymour, in 1868. He has voted for the democratic candidate ever since, with the exception of Al Smith, in 1928. He was persuaded to vote for Herbert Hoover by powerful democratic persons on the score that Smith was a Catholic. He now states that he lived to regret this deviation

He has always worked faithfully for the success of the Democratic party, never accepting a penny's reward but has been a regular contributor to the party's War Chest His political philosophy is easily understandable. He never experienced nor observed the horrors and cruelty of slavery as pictured in Uncle Tom's Cabin. He states "I eat the bread, drink the milk of the South-land, and I love that land they call Dixie."

He does not believe in politically biting the hand that feeds you.

In his later years, he has engaged in the grocery business, from which he accumulated a competency. He has great local influence among whites and blacks alike and is noted for his generosity towards enterprises of his own race. He is a member of the A. M. E. church and of the Masonic Fraternity. He contributed land for a colored school and also for a cemetery.

Robinson Crusoe Buck is naturally enough highly regarded by the leading Democrats in his state. He has known Senator Hull for forty years and was well acquainted with Senator Shields and Luke Lea, and was a personal friend of Alf and Bob Taylor, the famous Tennessee brothers, who were candidates for Governor on opposite tickets, and who canvassed the state entertaining the audience alternately with the fiddle and the bow.

He met Senator McAdoo the day he came to Washington, whom he had not seen since the campaign of Woodrow Wilson. Senator McAdoo remembered him and warmly shook hands.

Practically every present-day Negro adherent to the Democratic Party is a democrat either from prudence or for provender and not from genuine understanding of, belief, or love for the fundamental doctrine and tenets of the party. They may be called vindictive democrats. They have changed their politics because their first love, the Grand Old Party, of days gone by treated them despitefully.

It is indeed refreshing to see a spontaneous, sincere, simple-minded, genuine Negro democrat, in whom there is no guile.

—By Special Writer

DEMOCRATS IN TIPTON MEET; NAME LEADERS

Felix H. Payne Reelected President of State Organization

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
7-16-37

TIPTON, Mo.—The executive board of the United Negro Democrats of Missouri met at Tipton, Monday, July 5, adopted a revised constitution, elected officers for the ensuing four years, and attended to other business of the organization.

The meeting was attended by nearly 100 delegates from St. Louis, Kansas City, Hannibal, Sedalia, Marshall, Jefferson City, Boonville and other cities out state. There were two sessions, morning and evening, which were presided over by the president, Felix Payne, Kansas City.

The following officers were elected to serve until 1941:

Felix Payne, president; Dr. Arthur, of Kinloch, first vice president. Other vice presidents: Fred Ferguson, Sedalia; Mrs. P. Ruby Perdeau, St. Louis; Edgar Woolwary, Marshall; Dr. G. B. Key, St. Louis; Dr. L. M. Tillman, Kansas City. Thomas J. R. Wilson, state organizer, Jefferson City, Mo.; David M. Grant, St. Louis, executive secretary; Ethel Bowles, Tipton, recording secretary; Joe Long, Hannibal, chaplain; Perry Ambers, Hannibal, treasurer; Mr. Rollins, Boonville, sergeant of arms; C. Lopez McAllester, Hannibal, chairman of the executive board.

There were an outdoor barbeque, a ball game, sack and egg races and fireworks for the entertainment of the visitors, aside from a delicious mid-day luncheon which was served in style.

Send Letters to Senators

Letters were authorized to be sent to the two senators of Missouri, urging their support of anti-lynching legislation. The state planning board, which consists of secretary of state, state treasurer, state auditor and attorney general was requested by a resolution to see that the interests of Negro prisoners were safeguarded in the present rehabilitation program now under way and that Negro prisoners be fairly considered in the proposed prison improvements. The organization listened with interest to the report of Attorney David M. Grant, who reported for his committee on its activities in behalf of Industrial Home for Negro Girls at Tipton.

A report from the retiring executive secretary, Thomas J. R. Wilson, on legislative matters as well as his activities as lobbyist for the organization during the last session of the legislature was received and approved and a committee was named to continue his work at the State Capitol.

Plans were laid for a monster convention of the organization to be held this fall at Jefferson City and Payne, Wilson, Grant and McAllester were named as a detail and arrangements committee.

OHIO NEGRO DEMOCRATS PRESENT GOVERNOR GOLDEN BELT BUCKLE

Informer
8-7-37
Houston Texas

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—(By Clarence L. Simmons for ANP)—On behalf of the Negro Democratic Council of Cuyahoga County, Thomas J. Davis, president of the Ohio State Democratic League and the Council, in a timely speech, presented Governor Martin L. Davey a solid gold belt buckle and two leather belt straps of superfine quality as a birthday present.

Democrats journeyed from all over the state to Buckeye Lake last Saturday to celebrate the fifty-third birthday of the Ohio Governor. Accompanying Mr. Davis on the trip were: Atty. Charles V Carr, George W. Burdon, John W. Carmack, Leon Guady of Akron, and C. S. McCallister of Columbus.

J. E. Walker Now Demo Pilot

Daily World
8-18-37
Atlanta, Ga.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—'The first colored Democratic Club below the Mason-Dixon line that has ever been recognized by the regular (white) Democratic organization', is the manner in which Dr. J. E. Walker described the colored voters Democratic Club of Memphis and Shelby County which met in the assembly room of the Universal Life Insurance Building last Tuesday night at 8 p. m.

The special meeting of the organization had been called for the purpose of filling vacancies in the official staff of the organization. one vacancy being caused by the recent death of Attorney William H. Foote.

Dr. J. E. Walker. president of the Universal Company was unanimously elected chairman of the local organization, to take the place of the deceased attorney Foote. In his speech of acceptance, the well known insurance executive, stressed the need for wide-awake, progressive, organization among colored people, anl promised his constant effort to formulate an organization serving not only the interests of Negroes but also the interests of the entire community.

Attention was called to the work of the organization in the last general elections, and possibilities for the future were emphasized.

Reference was made to the current registration of voters now going on in Memphis. and which will last for ten days.

Prof. Lucien J. Searcy, executive secretary of the Community Welfare League, was elected secretary of the club, and Mr. R. B Sugarman, assistant secretary. All other officers were retained in their posts.

Repeated tributes to the memory of Attorney Foote were made by various persons present. Two visitors, Prof. R. J. Roddy and G. W Bragg, conuty residents. were acknowledged with the comment that the club is a county as well as city organization.

Others present were: Prof 'Lucky' Sharpe, Maceo Walker Professor J. A. Hayes, Harry Cash, I. A. Gentry, A. Willis, S M. Wyatt, M. W. Bonner, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Taylor, Mrs. A. Shivers Miss Ruby Triplett, Mr. Will S Stinson and Mr. J. W. Hamilton along with a score of interested observers

COLORED DELEGATES SCARCE AS YOUNG DEMOS GATHER HERE

Recorder

8-28-37

Indianapolis Indiana

Thousands of persons converged on this beautiful and gaily decorated City last week to attend the four-day convention of the Young Democrats of America.

Highlights of the convention included addresses by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, her son, James, and James A. Farley postmaster general. Fun was the order of the day last Friday at a stag party given at the Murat Temple. Delegates from all over the state joined the celebration consisting of music, entertainment and refreshments. Approximately 2,000 persons were present.

While colored delegates were poorly represented as a whole, the few attending made their presence known by participating in most of the various meetings and entertainments. Under the guidance of Charles Monger, chairman of affairs for entertainment for colored delegates, an employe in the City engineering department, and Grant Hawkins, deputy fire marshal, out of town delegates were shown what exists in true democracy in Marion county.

They were feted at an open house party given by Earl Barnett, president of the eighteenth ward young democrats, in the Claypool hotel. Colored delegates' headquarters were in 646, a room costing $15.00 per day and made possible by George S. Lupear, investigator of the Alcoholic Beverage Commission and assistant to William E Claur, Twelfth ward democratic chairman, and Joe Howard, president of Marion county young democrats. Mr. Howard is well-known among colored people for his dynamic fight waged in their behalf against the K. K. K. several years ago, and Leo O'Conner, of the prosecutor's office.

Definite plans have been started to insure a better representation of colored delegates in the next conference to be held at Philadelphia.

Recorder

Following is a partial list of delegates; John E. Long, Wichita, Kan., John Horner, Marion county, Ludwig Johnson, Marion county, Charles Bunker, Marion county, William Walker, Jr., Marion county, Grant Hawkins, Marion county, Mercer Mance, Marion county, L. C. Hunter, Kalamazoo, Mich., Miss Katherine Parker, Detroit, Mich. Nathaniel Lendsey, Marion county, Charles Wilson, Marion county.

8-28-37

Indianapolis Indiana

COLORED YOUNG DEMOS SCARCE AT CONVENTION HERE

Recorder

8-28-37

Indianapolis Indiana

Three visiting Demos and eight of the local variety were listed at the national convention here last week. Questions founded in rumor have demanded if the report of a party bolt because of being ignored is true. Many of the persons expected to be seen there were not in evidence and a quiet canvass has uncovered as many reasons as persons were questioned. Could Dick Heller's cold shoulder and the Governor's frequent refusal to receive "the faithful" have at long last turned them a trifle bitter? Just what was the reason eleven Demos only showed for this festive and important occasion?

DEMOS NAME CABLE TO STATE HOUSING BOARD

Recorder

Recorder

Democratic leaders of Indiana re reported to be deeply concerned over the negligence of tate authorities in appointing colored people to fill several of the tate offices that they have been promised.

8-28-37

Dr. Theodore Cable, City Councilman, was one of the two Indianapolis men appointed by Governor M. Clifford Townsend to the State Housing Commission which was provided for the 1937 Legislature.

Indianapolis

Indiana

A report that Earl Clemmons Indianapolis, and another man from Evansville were appointed to the state excise department has not been confirmed yet. Mrs. Remy Anderson, and Dr. J. J. Hoover have been assured of positions in the new set-up it was revealed.

Birmingham, Ala. News
August 23, 1937

Party Trouble Continues To Threaten Democratic Unity

Undoubtedly the disaffection in the Democratic party, which for a time threatened a party split even in 1936, continues to widen. The closing day of the congressional session brought a spectacular demonstration of the intensity of feeling between warring factions of the party in the flare-up between Senator Guffey, who called for the defeat of Democratic senators who had opposed the court bill, and Senators Wheeler, Burke, O'Mahoney and Holt, who denounced Guffey and challenged the administration to unseat them.

The court packing bill, the proposed concentration of power in the executive in the reorganization bill, the dangerous wage-and-hour bill, with its special threat to the South, the anti-lynching bill and the president's reluctance on cotton loans are only the outstanding recent factors in a situation that is causing great speculation as to what will have happened by 1940.

"The South supplies the captains and lieutenants who are now in revolt," declares a Washington correspondent of *The Christian Science Monitor*, who continues: "It is a matter of serious consequence, for the party fissure goes deep despite all harmony dinners. Ultimately it comes down to this: Will the regular Democrats from the South, many of whom are as conservative as Old Guard Republicans in most matters, save the tariff, name the successor to Mr. Roosevelt in 1940, or will Mr. Roosevelt name him? In other words, liberal or conservative, which wing is going to flap the party?"

There are some reports that Vice President Garner's trip home to Texas still is significant despite his ministry in settling the court battle. It will be noted that he settled it against the president. And now there are reports that Mr. Garner, though he may have no ambition to succeed Mr. Roosevelt himself, is determined that the time has come for a swing back to traditional party principles and that consequently no New Dealer should be nominated in 1940.

Some observers of the political scene believe that Mr. Roosevelt is prepared, if necessary, to sacrifice such Democratic chieftains as Glass and Byrd, of Virginia, and Bailey, of North Carolina. They contend that such strength as he loses there would be made up in progressive Republican ranks.

But Mr. Farley's sweet spirit of forgiveness for opponents of the court packing plan, contrasting sharply with his threats during the heat of the battle, does not indicate that he, at any rate, would willingly surrender any of the heterogeneous strength of the party leadership. To Mr. Farley it is evidently of little account what a man believes at election time, so long as he votes right and tells others to do so.

The Black nomination and the following contest in the Senate did not soothe any anguish. On the contrary, it repeats the question as to what is to become of the Burke-Clark-Van Nuys groups, which, while not so conservative as the Glass-Byrd-Bailey contingent, still is far from congenial with recent New Deal tendencies.

How all the incompatible forces that now make up the so-called Democratic party can be kept under the New Deal flag until 1940 is a question that seems to have no ready answer. But he who says it is unanswerable forgets what wonders politics can perform.

Theoretically, for many, many years there should have been a division between conservatives and liberals in America. Theoretically, there still should be. But still there remain the cautious thinkers and slow movers and the quick theorists and swift doers in both parties. Strong as the theory of a more realistic division by temperament is, it may be impossible that a national party can be formed and made effective without both kinds of temperaments.

And the theory, also, may give much too little weight to all the other factors besides theory which enter into a candidate's or a voter's choice of allegiance.

NEGRO DEMOCRATIC DRIVE

Jefferson County Negro Democrats will formulate plans for a state party drive during October at a meeting at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday at the Elks Rest. 800 12th-av. n.

Political – 1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic.

Bristol, Va., Herald-Courier
August 26, 1937

The South And Democracy.

Comment was made in this place yesterday on a press dispatch from Washington telling of talk that was going the rounds about a political realignment. The dispatch represented some of the Democratic Senators and Representatives in Congress as believing that the party is split at present; that whether the split becomes permanent depends largely on whether President Roosevelt moves farther to the Left; and that if he moves farther to the Left, which is to say if he becomes even more liberal, not only the more conservative but many liberal Democrats will drop out of the party. With what party or group these Democrats will affiliate is not indicated.

"One astute Senator, who did not want to be quoted by name," the dispatch said, "held that conditions are at last ripe for the long-discussed party realignment. He contended that the Solid South's fealty to the Democratic Party has been the stumbling-block to such developments in the past, but that it is no longer such an obstacle. With the South decidedly skeptical of the wage-hour bill advanced by the Administration, and hostile to the anti-lynching bill fostered by Democratic members of Congress, he said it would not take much to sever Dixie's old political ties."

Given three trials, most of us believe we could name this "astute Senator," and most of us doubt that he is really so astute. "Dixie's old political ties" came more nearly being severed in 1928 than ever before or since. In that year five Southern States gave their electoral votes to the Republican candidate for President, supposedly because the Democratic candidate was wet, but really because he was a Roman Catholic. Some of these States went Republican in a national election for the first time since the Reconstruction. Four years later the South went solidly and positively for a wet Democratic candidate for President, and four years after that it voted even more overwhelmingly for his reelection. Virginia, for example, gave President Roosevelt the largest majority in 1936 that it had ever cast for any candidate for any office. Tennessee did almost as well.

Much is said about "the conservative South," but the rank and file of the people of the South are liberal or progressive. They demonstrated that last year when they gave Mr. Roosevelt and the New Deal an emphatic indorsement. Southern industrialists and Southern newspapers generally are opposed to wage-hour legislation, but it does not follow that the people of the South are opposed to it, nor do we believe they are.

It is to be remembered that these newspapers did not reflect the sentiment of the Southern people in the last Presidential campaign.

As to the anti-lynching bill, we believe the "astute Senator" missed his guess again when he said the South is hostile to it. The Southern people have grown impatient with the failure of the States to suppress mob lawlessness in its most sinister form. The time has come when perhaps as many Southern newspapers advocate a Federal anti-lynching law as oppose it. It is hardly possible that the South, long disgraced by mob murders, would further disgrace itself by turning against the Democratic Party because Democrats in Congress sponsored an anti-lynching bill or because such a measure was enacted under a Democratic Administration.

Political sentiment in the South is not fairly reflected by its conservative or reactionary newspapers and politicians. As to a political realignment in the Nation, those who talk of it are mostly opponents of the Roosevelt policies who are doing a bit of wishful thinking. We had something in the nature of a political realignment last year and the anti-New Dealers were stunned by the outcome. There is evidence that they have not yet fully recovered from the shock.

Southern Editors Pen Comment On Call to Old-Line Democrats

Editorial comment, some approving and some critical, of The Constitution's call for a reawakening of old-line Democratic leadership in the south, continues to occupy a prominent position in the press of the southern states.

The two editorials in question, which appeared in The Constitution of August 22 and 29, won for this paper the Theron S. Shope trophy for the most fearless editorials published by a Georgia newspaper in the past year. The award was made at the convention of the Georgia Press Association.

Some typical editorial comme[illegible] follows:

A CHANCE AND A PREDICTION.
From the Wilmington, N. C., News.

Urging that now is the time for the south to take charge of the Democratic party, The Atlanta Constitution says:

"It is time for the democracy of the south, today, to decide again whom it will serve. Whether it should follow after the false gods of bureaucratic, regimented, socialistic Fascism, as revealed in the program of the radical groups in the administration, or whether it shall enlist under the banners of true Democrats and continue the long struggle to preserve the sanctity of the constitution and the fundamental liberties of the people.

"Certainly there have been few times in the history of the party, when it has been as important as it is now that the Democrats of the south take political stock to judge on what path the future leads."

Business of agreeing with the esteemed Constitution but at the same time expressing the fear that southern Democrats will do as they have done.

Listen to the master voice from north and east.

CRUSADE FOR DEMOCRACY.
From the Gadsden, Ala., Times.

The vigorous crusade of The Atlanta Constitution to make the Democratic party democratic is attracting wide attention and much favorable comment from traditionally Democratic journals in the south, and the results are particularly gratifying to this newspaper for the reason that it has been carrying on just such a campaign for months. It has observed and deplored the drift away from democracy and now rejoices over the evident movement back of the condition under which democracy means what the term implies.

The Democratic party was never designed as an organization to be at the exclusive service of any element of the citizenship. The concept of its founders and of those who have carried it on through the years was a concept of service to the entire nation and it will live and prosper only as this ideal is adhered to. There are some 125,000,000 persons in the United States, all with equal rights under the constitution and all entitled to the same consideration, and this is what the Democratic party has stood for and must stand for if it is to continue to enjoy the confidence of the great mass of Americans.

THE SOUTH MUST SAVE DEMOCRACY.
From the Kinston (N. C.) Free Press.

The editor of The Free Press, on a recent vacation trip in Virginia, was asked by a newly made golfing acquaintance, a prominent citizen of Charlottesville, if he was supporting the New Deal a hundred per cent. The answer, naturally, was in the negative, and certain phases such as the recently defeated proposal of the President to stack the supreme court, the iniquitous Wagner labor disputes bill, and the defeated Black-Connery wage-hour bill were cited as some of the exceptions which the Free Press and its editor had taken to the New Deal program.

In a series of editorials The Atlanta Constitution, one of the great mouthpieces of the Democratic party and for so many years directed by the late Honorable Clark Howell, and now presided over by his son and namesake, calls for a stock-taking and urges the responsibility resting upon the south to save the Democratic party and its traditional tenets of self-government and inherent rights of individual citizens.

DEMOCRATIC DISSSENSION.
(From The Durham (N. C.) Herald.)

A long time ago Byron suggested that the "devil was the first Democrat" and Mrs. Stowe added the thought that "your little child is your only true Democrat."

At times, though, one finds it right easy to believe that some of the Democrats in charge of Democratic business behave with the devilishness Byron associated with Democrats and with the childishness spoken of by Mrs. Stowe.

At the moment, for instance, we have an increasing contingent of so-called Jeffersonian Democrats, most of them floating the solid south banner, asserting that the New Dealers have launched the Democratic party away from its traditional moorings, and demanding that southern Democrats recapture party control lines and pull the party back to true Democracy, cherished only by southern Democrats. The Atlanta Constitution is heading a sort of journalistic crusade in support of traditional southern Democracy.

Well, we are not quarreling with The Atlanta Constitution for condemning the present leadership of the party bearing the Democratic label nor yet blaming it for espousing the political cause of homefolk and home territory.

What we do is remind today's rooters for yesterday's brand of southern Democratic leadership that that leadership kept the Democratic party in the minority position quite a long time, and is probably the greatest single cause of the sharpness of sectional political, economic and social lines today and is certainly responsible for the backwardness of southern states in the matter of social legislation and economic reforms.

THE SOUTH AND THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
(From The Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette.

In two searching editorials in which The Atlanta Constitution calls on the Democracy of the south to examine its place in the present political scheme of things and order its course for the future the southern states are put on notice about the situation created by the abrogation of the two-third rule in Democratic national conventions.

Southern opposition to the dropping of the two-thirds rule of the Democratic party was at most half-hearted. The general feeling among southern delegates to the 1936 national convention at Philadelphia seemed to be that the rule set up a century before by a

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.
9-1-37

southern Democrat, Andrew Jackson, was no longer a matter of vital concern to the south.

But as the Atlanta paper points out, with the two-thirds rule abrogated, 13 highly industrialized states in the east and north could if they stood together completely control a national convention.

FIGHT, DEMOCRATS, ALL!

From the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel.

The Atlanta Constitution, in an editorial series urging the southern Democrats to re-asume American leadership, is very tame in its declaration that "the south must steer the party ship away from the shoals of socialistic experimentation."

Socialism is not the word for it, Constitution. Socialism started here years ago. Socialistic experimentation is not the phrase for what is taking place in Washington—it is a combination of Communism, Socialism and Radicalism which even "White House Tommy" cannot satisfactorily explain to an American people.

Constitution says there is "a challenge to the south." That restricts the limits of the tournament being staged by braintrusters on the White House lawn and environs. It is a national challenge, not a sectional challenge; not an engagement for a province or a small area, it is a battle for all people who are true Americans.

Save for these relatively unimportant differences with a great southern newspaper and institution, the Constitution is right in all that it says but not strong enough.

DEMOCRATIC NEWSPAPERS PREACHING ALIEN DOCTRINES.

From the Millen (Ga.) News.

One of the most revealing and frank editorial expressions that we have recently read, is from the Augusta Herald of this week—a newspaper whose democracy is dependable and unchallenged. It specifically takes issue with a series of editorials recently appearing in The Atlanta Constitution—a newspaper whose recent political pronouncements do not conform to the conceptions of Democracy ratified by Georgians and other southern states.

Verily, it is true as states the Herald, "party labels are no longer of prime importance," but Georgians will not be led by traitors into the political camps of capitalistic and autocratic forms of government. No, not after the south's servitude of special interests ever since the War Between the States. Even though the south may in part be lacking in appreciation and gratitude, she can still be trusted to distinguish between her friends and her enemies—despite the cleverness of their disguise. The south was "the Forgotten Man" until the present administration.

THE CONSTITUTION HAS GONE "HAYWIRE."

From the Gainesville (Ga.) News.

The Atlanta Constitution has gone "haywire" in its antipathies toward the national administration of which Franklin D. Roosevelt is the head. It saw fit to cast its lot against the President's reorganization of the United States supreme court, since which time it finds nothing good, but practically everything bad, in his administration. It has seen fit to align itself with those interests, largely corporate, which are seeking in every way to block the passage of legislation which we believe to be for the best interests of the masses of the common people.

CHALLENGING EDITORIALS.

From the Rock Hill (S. C.) Herald.

There recently appeared in The Constitution, of Atlanta, Ga., two challenging editorials that merit serious consideration on the part of all people who love true democracy. Coming from such a source as The Constitution the utterances have added importance for this newspaper has been an important mouthpiece for the Democratic party for many, many years.

Had The Constitution been a constant critic of the New Deal and opposed to the present administration the recent editorials would not have such force. But the fact remains that The Constitution has been a sort of mouthpiece for democracy over a wide territory of the south. Thus a criticism has added weight.

Thoughts expressed by the two editorials in The Constitution are merely the thoughts that are in the minds of many, many southerners at this time. If The Constitution can bring more concerted action on the part of our leaders for the retention of democratic principles then this paper has done a great service for the south and for the nation.

SOUTH'S CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY.

From the Paris (Tenn.) Post-Intelligencer.

The Atlanta Constitution, as well as many other powerful daily newspapers of the south, is alarmed over the destruction of the two-thirds rule for nominating Democratic party candidates at national conventions and in its issue of Sunday, August 29, it calls attention to the fact that 13 northern and eastern states have absolute control of nominations under the new simple majority rule.

Since the south is the cradle of pure Democracy it has always held the balance of power in nominating national candidates through the two-thirds rule which was destroyed at the Philadelphia convention. We are now witnessing a struggle for control of the party by several different groups of radicals, none of which represent the principles which have made it the dominant political organization in national affairs.

The Constitution is meeting the challenge to southern leadership as it has always done since the days of Henry W. Grady. The south has the greatest opportunity in its history to back up such Democratic newspapers and, through united co-operation, reclaim the party at the next national convention.

THE SOUTH AND THE NEW DEAL.

From the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News.

It is time for the Democratic party of the south to take stock of its position in national governmental affairs and decide what is to be the future policy, says The Atlanta Constitution, starting a series of editorials. The Constitution broadly hints that the south should break away from support of the New Deal.

We should not like to see the Democratic party return to its former policies. For over 50 years it was merely "used" in politics, and the south suffered as a consequence.

In late years, the south's Democrats have been assertive, and the south has benefited.

From the Andalusia, Ala., Star.

The Atlanta Constitution urges Democrats of the south to take stock and decide upon their future policy. Well, we see no particular difference in the brand of democracy displayed by the average southern Democrat than was displayed by the average Democrat in other areas. True we have some "old guard" Democrats among the leaders of the south. But they have the same brand in every other section. What the esteemed Constitution evidently has in mind is that the "old guard" Democrats, a member of which The Constitution editor would probably class himself, will have to decide whether they will go along with the party under the leadership of Roosevelt or repeat the stunt pulled by the Palmer and Buckner crowd back in 1896—or they might choose to follow a more recent deserter and "take a walk" with Al Smith. The rank and file of the party will continue to follow the Democratic banner carried by Mr. Roosevelt.

DEMOCRATS OF MISSOURI TO MEET OCT. 2

Second Biennial Convention To Be Held Saturday in Jefferson City

Call

10-1-37

Kansas City Mo

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—The United Negro Democrats of Missouri, Inc., will hold their second biennial convention here Saturday, October 2, with more than [illegible],000 Negro Democrats from every section of the state expected to attend.

A meeting of the executive board will be held at 8 a. m., Dr. C. Lopez McAllester of Hannibal, chairman, presiding.

A mammoth parade will begin at Madison and Dunklin streets at 11 a. m., moving east to Lafayette, north to High street and on to the capitol. The governor and his staff will review the parade from the north balcony of the capitol.

The convention will convene at 11:30 o'clock and the keynote address will be made by the temporary chairman, Thomas J. R. Wilson, after which all committees will be appointed.

The women's division will meet in the senate lounge at 12 noon.

The following persons will address the convention:

Dr. W. J. Thompkins, recorder of deeds, Washington.

Attorney Joseph L. McLemore, St. Louis.

Professor Frank L. Williams, chairman Missouri Survey commission;

Dr. William R. Arthur, county physican and former postmaster, Kinloch, Mo.;

Mrs. P. Ruby Perdeau, St. Louis.

S. O'Bannon Gordon, president Out-State Jeffersonian Democratic League.

Mrs. Ethel M. Bowles, superintendent Girls' Industrial home, Tipton, Mo.;

Attorney David M. Grant, assistant city councillor, St. Louis;

Mrs. Rosetta W. Gibson, director of Big Sisters home, Kansas City;

Dr. O. S. McClellan, superintendent Homer G. Phillips hospital, St. Louis;

Carl Abbott, President Pettis County Negro Democratic Club Sedalia;

Dr. L. M. Tillman, assistant resident physician, General hospital, No. 2, Kansas City;

Professor L. B. Fowler, member board of curators Lincoln university, Charleston, Mo.;

Dr. A. W. Fox, treasurer Marion County Negro Democratic club Hannibal, Mo.;

Fred D. Ferguson, vice president United Negro Democrats, Sedalia, Mo.;

Felix Hall Payne Jr., President Young Democrats, Kansas City;

Mrs. Marie Halliday, Court domestic relations, St. Louis.

Mrs. Tillie Griffin, hostess, Homer G. Phillips hospital, St. Louis

At 1:30 o'clock the president Felix H. Payne Sr., Kansas City will present a blue and white silk flag to Dr. Thompkins, member of the board of curators, Lincocln university, who will present the flag to President W. B. Jason on behalf of the United Negro Democrats, to the Linccoln university band of which Professor James B. Parsons is the director.

Roland L. Wiggins, state inspect- of schools, will accept the flag on behalf of the band.

The convention will convene at 3 p. m., with S. Banner Gordon, permanent chairman, presiding.

A memorial service will be held in honor of the following board members who died within the past two years.

Professor E. O. Boone II, State inspector of Negro schools, and vice president of United Negro Democrats.

Mrs. Juanita B. Hailey, social service director, Homer Phillips hospital, St. Louis.

Orange Morrison, president Howard county Negro Democrats.

Dr. Howard M. Smith, president Jackson County Negro Democrats.

Sylvester Crutchfield, president Saline County Negro Democrats.

At 3:30 p. m. the Awards committee under the direction of Dr. William B. Arthur will present silver plaques to the following for outstanding service: Dr. William J. Thompkins, Mrs. Ethel M. Bowles, Attorney Joseph L. McLemore, Professor Frank L. Williams, Professor Arthur L. Hammond.

The convention will then hear reports of committees after which President Payne will make his Bi-ennial address.

At 7 p. m. there will be public speaking in the state park at Jefferson City. The principal address will be made by Joseph B. Keenan, assistant attorney general of Washington.

Other prominent Democrats on this program are: Senator Bennett Champ Clark, Governor Lloyd C. Stark, State Superintendent of Schools Lloyd W. King, Attorney General Roy McKittrick, and Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann of St. Louis.

Dr. William J. Thompkins, honorary president, will preside.

There will be a free barbecue and dance for the visitors after the speaking at the state park.

Political-1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic.

First Lady Sees Ignorance Basis of Inequalities

Complete text of Mrs. Roosevelt's speech, "The Relation of the Press to the Democratic Ideal." The First Lady spoke Friday night in New York at Mother A.M.E. Zion Church. The meeting, sponsored by the New York Crisis committee, launched a fund-raising campaign for the 26-year-old N.A.A.C.P. organ. This was Mrs. Roosevelt's first appearance before a Harlem audience since here husband became President.

"The Mayor [New York's Fiorello LaGuardia] said he hoped he could be heard. I hope that I can be as successful in being heard as he was.

"If you can't hear me I hope you will let me know and I will speak louder. Before I talk about the relation of the press to the democratic ideal, I would like to talk about the democratic ideal itself, because some of the questions you have in mind have to do with this, I am sure.

"You are not the only people in this country who feel that you are not wanted. There are others who feel the same way. I think a great many of us are confused about what we mean by the democratic ideal. I can only tell you what the democratic ideal means to me.

The Democratic Ideal

"To me it means that in this country we should all have certain equal rights, and minorities should certainly have those rights exactly as majorities have them. That is not so today. While I know it is not true of your race, there are others too who do not have it.

"There is one story that I like to tell and tell often. Not long ago I visited a women's prison, and I attended class where they were teaching English. There were three women reading a paper and reading it well. I was told that when they came to prison not one of them could read or write.

To Prison to Learn

"And the pitiful thing to me was that they had to go to prison to learn to read and write. Every one of them came from what we call good American stock. All of them were white.

"One of the things we should work for is an equal chance for every child to have an opportunity to go to school. We have not realized that different gifts are given to different people. Education provides the way for these gifts to be developed.

"I think that we should make the effort to see that the gifts that people have are developed. I agree with Miss Williams (who introduced the First Lady to the audience) that what we are doing in Harlem today is only a drop in the bucket.

"I do not think that the Government alone can do all the things we want done, but I believe the Government can point the way, and after that individuals and citizens should work and do what we can to do the things necessary to make it possible for all the citizens to have a better chance to work and live.

Standards Necessary

"I do not expect any government, city, state, or Federal, to do it alone. But I believe that when people in a demorcracy know conditions as a whole, then they can work together.

"Of course, I do not believe that minorities should be left to work alone. I think that when we are citizens of a country we want the whole country to be considered as an entity.

"To do this successfully as a group, we want for the nation certain standards, and they should be equal standards. And so I hope that some day all institutions can be on the same level. I know that is not so today.

"It has been brought to my attention that colored nurses in a hospital are having a hard time, because the standards in this hospital are not what they should be. I hope this will be changed. Now I have no excuse for not knowing a great many more things than I do. And I certainly should know the standards of this hospital.

"But I did not, and I don't know yet what is wrong at this hospital, but I am going to try and find out. I think what is true of me is true of a great many people.

Many Don't Understand

"I think that one of the faults of our democracy is that a great many people don't know what is wrong with the rest of the country. It is not only you who suffer. I know places all over this country where people suffer. I know this, but I don't believe this is understood by everybody, because the rest of the country does not know about it.

"Ignorance is at the basis of our inability to project ourselves into situations so that we will understand them. Therefore I think that one of the most important things that we can do today is to understand that all citizens should have an equal opportunity. Then if you do not do as well as your neighbor democracy is not to blame.

Press Important

"After we get accustomed to

the ideal of democracy then the relationship of the press to this ideal is one of the most important things we have to consider.

"The press is one of the greatest organs for the dissemination of information. And, because it has a great responsibility, the most important thing for the press in a democracy is that as far as facts go, the public should always be able to know that facts are stated truthfully.

"Then the people have an opportunity to make up their minds. Do not trust to other people's beliefs. In reading different people's opinions be sure that you have the facts in mind, then use your own judgement.

"As far as the Crisis is concerned, it is a vital necessity that a minority group have an organ. It is necessary that that organ express the ideals, desires, conditions, and problems of the people it represents.

Needed by Nation

"I think it is also more important that the Crisis should go to people outside than that it should go to you here in Harlem. I am glad to know that it goes to people all over the country.

"I hope that it will go to a great many people of my race because we all need to know about each other. We all need to know what other people are thinking—what other people are going through. And if we have something like the Crisis, it can remind us of things that we might forget.

Value of the Crisis

"Of course an organ, in itself, is not going to accomplish a great deal. The first thing is to make you, a minority, conscious of facts, opinions, and conditions which affect all of you. You may not be conscious of things that affect all of you in your group.

"The real way things will happen is when you are well informed and you are able to work and get things done, which are placed befo. you by your organ.

"We want the understanding of other groups, and it is perfectly true that you have got to take the trouble to understand the rest of he country, just as we want them to take the trouble to understand us.

Must Know Each Other

"It is a natural thing to be wanted. We all of us want to be wanted and to be a natural part of the country. And I think it is perfectly possible to achieve to those results if we really come to a better understanding to each other; if we acknowledge our own faults; if we try to bridge the gap that separates us from other people.

"I think, as a rule, that majorities, just because they are majorities, are sometimes a little arrogant, and are not willing to acknowledge that they may have some faults.

Free Speech and Press

"In a democracy I think it is a good thing that we have free speech and freedom of the press because we can see what others think of us. We do have to learn to take criticisms that come, and not to be bitter about them, to weigh them, and be able to know if they are valid. Some of them will be valid, and some of them may not be valid because of prejudice, or lack of knowledge and understanding.

"Someone said to me some time ago that she wondered how a certain person, prominent in public life, could stand criticism levelled at her, and had no resentment. I think a great many of us learn that answering back isn't a great deal of help.

"I we have free expression, it is a great deal better to let other people feel that if they have something to express, it is very much better to let it be expresesd in anyway they like in the press, where it can be brought out in the open and read and discussed.

"I never believe in the suppression of any opinion or any ideas. I believe that the ultimate test of democracy is its ability to stand against and prove that a people can govern themselves, and that a free press is necessary, and that the press will be free.

Press Must Be Free

"I hope that each magazine and paper will always say to the people that they represent that to be of value to a democracy it must be free.

"It must not be obligated to curtail its opinions, for that's the way people make up their minds. Mr. Wilkins said that is what the Crisis has succeeded in doing.

"It is important that we insist on absolute integrity in every method of information that comes to us in a democracy. For here each one of us acts in that Government as a whole, as well as in a part of that government. We will each make the opinion if the ideal of democracy is to be kept high.

"Therefore if the ideal of democracy is to be kept high we must keep the press on a very high level. It is a high calling.

"My first lesson in civic duties was taught to me by a man of the press, my husband's most intimate friend, and I can remember when he sat in the back of the hall and criticized me when I made a speech. And he laid down a rule. He said, when making a speech, first of all have something to say, say it, and sit down.

"Whatever I have been able to accomplish came largely from that man. I have found the ethics of newspaper people extraordinarily high. And I have found this true in every kind of organ.

"I feel that a democracy depends so greatly on the real integrity of its press. Now, the Crisis has a special group to represent just as the Survey represents a special group. I have always been interested in the Survey.

"I am interested in the Crisis because I recognize that your group has many problems. I think you have made measurable advances during the last few years, but you still have a long way to

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic.

First Lady Sees Ignorance Basis of Inequalities

Complete text of Mrs. Roosevelt's speech, "The Relation of the Press to the Democratic Ideal." The First Lady spoke Friday night in New York at Mother A.M.E. Zion Church. The meeting, sponsored by the New York Crisis committee, launched a fund-raising campaign for the 26-year-old N.A.A.C.P. organ. This was Mrs. Roosevelt's first appearance before a Harlem audience since here husband became President.

"The Mayor [New York's Fiorello LaGuardia] said he hoped he could be heard. I hope that I can be as successful in being heard as he was.

"If you can't hear me I hope you will let me know and I will speak louder. Before I talk about the relation of the press to the democratic ideal, I would like to talk about the democratic ideal itself, because some of the questions you have in mind have to do with this, I am sure.

"You are not the only people in this country who feel that you are not wanted. There are others who feel the same way. I think a great many of us are confused about what we mean by the democratic ideal. I can only tell you what the democratic ideal means to me.

The Democratic Ideal

"To me it means that in this country we should all have certain equal rights, and minorities should certainly have those rights exactly as majorities have them. That is not so today. While I know it is not true of your race, there are others too who do not have it.

"There is one story that I like to tell and tell often. Not long ago I visited a women's prison, and I attended class where they were teaching English. There were three women reading a paper and reading it well. I was told that when they came to prison not one of them could read or write.

To Prison to Learn

"And the pitiful thing to me was that they had to go to prison to learn to read and write Every one of them came from what we call good American stock. All of them were white.

"One of the things we should work for is an equal chance for every child to have an opportunity to go to school. We have not realized that different gifts are given to different people. Education provides the way for these gifts to be developed.

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Whites Need Education

"Those of my race have made measurable steps forward. But we have a long ways to go yet. We need education; we need understanding. But I believe that through the press, and freedom of speech we have got something of the understanding that the depression has taught us.

"I know that there are many hungry people in Harlem, and I know that there are others who are hungry, many of them in other ways. I think that there are more people in the nation as a whole who knows about these things. We can put this down as one of the gains of the depression.

"We cannot be glad that people have suffered, but we can be glad that they have worked to live, and that more of them understand how to live with one another.

"I do not believe that human nature can actually see others suffering and pass by without trying to do something about it. Therefore I believe that with the aid of the press, and increased understanding, we are all going to move forward, and that the Crisis will be able to report that some of the things they hoped for in this democracy will be achieved."

BIG RALLY TO UNITE AKRON'S DEMS FOR FRAY

Gazette

Akron, O.—The Allied Democratic clubs of Akron will stage an open house mass meeting at their headquarters, 25 N. Howard St., 2nd floor, on Saturday evening, Oct. 25, at 7:45. Vital news will be discussed. The public is invited to attend the meeting and get the facts.

10-7-37

Refreshments will be served free to all. The meeting is under the direction of James Russell, chairman executive committee; C. L. Edwards, club chairman; Prof. H. Pierson Scott, publicity manager; Sherman Scrutchings, assistant publicity manager, and Mrs. Elizabeth Ladd

Cleveland
Ohio

Birmingham, Ala. News
October 27, 1937

NEGRO DEMOCRATS MEET

The Jefferson County Negro Democratic Club will hold its regular meeting at 7:30 tonight at the Elks Rest Hall at Twelfth Street and Eighth Avenue, North, according to an announcement by D. L. White, president.

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic

Negro Leaders Donate $900 To Democrats

Tribune

9 Attend (At $100 Per Plate) Dinner At Penn Athletic Club

10-[illegible]-37

By ORRIN C. EVANS

Nine hundred dollars was dropped into the Democratic campaign pot by Negro Democratic leaders here, Tuesday night, by way of the banquet table. And by virtue of their attendance at the $100 dinner, at the Penn A. C., 18th and Locust streets, they are entitled to disport a "100 Club" button in their respective lapels.

Among those who attended, paying $100 for the privilege were: Representatives Marshall L. Shepard, Edwin F. Thompson, Samuel D. Holmes and John H. Brigerman, J. Austin Norris, Democratic member of the Board of Revision of Taxes, State Athletic Commissioner Joseph H. Rainey and Mrs. Rainey, and a new recruit to Democratic ranks, Raymond Pace Alexander, accompanying Mrs. Somerville Z. Fauntleroy, interracial consultant in the Department of Welfare.

That was the financial highlight of the current Democratic campaign during the past week. The highlight from the standpoint of campaign activity was the opening of the City-wide Colored Citizens Committee headquarters at 2015 Ridge avenue by a group of former Republicans and independents. The committee is headed by Raymond Pace Alexander and Hobson Reynolds, the latter exalted ruler of Chris J. Perry Elks lodge.

Included among the civic figures comprising the executive committee, are: Mercer L. Lewis, Dr. Donald Maddox, Mrs. Sarah Gayle, Dr. D. C. Ford, Mrs. Eugenia Rice, Rev. E. T. Lewis, Rev. J. A. Jarrett, Rev. R. J. Langston, Rev. Leonard Carr and Mrs. Jennie Morris.

The campaign being conducted by Joseph H. Rainey, member of the State Athletic Commisison, for election to the magistracy on the Democratic ticket, is gaining headway, with pledges of support being made by division workers.

WHY 100,000 NEGROES WILL VOTE DEMOCRATIC NEXT TUESDAY

10-28-37

Philadelphia Tribune

BECAUSE:

WE BELIEVE—In a square deal and Honest Treatment for our Race.

WE KNOW—That the Democratic Party has given us the Best State and National Government under Governor Earle and President Roosevelt that we have had in 60 years and that in doing so, they have given more and better jobs and *Executive Positions to Negroes in 3 years than the Republicans gave in 60 years of continuous costrol.*

Philadelphia, Pa

WE CAN'T FORGET—That the Republican Party Refused to place a Negro any where on the ticket and as an excuse, used the 50-year-old answer, "The Time is Not Ripe," while the Democratic Party gladly endorsed a Negro candidate for Magistrate, Joseph H. Rainey, whom we expect to elect.

WE REMEMBER—Who made it possible for old age and blind pensions, more liberal workmen compensation laws, shorter hours of labor; who created work for our helpless unemployed and who passed Social Security and unemployment acts, which helped Negro men and women and their families.

THAT'S WHY—This committee, made up of Former Republicans – *and 100,000 other Negroes are going to vote the Straight Democratic Ticket Next Tuesday, November 2nd*

RAYMOND PACE ALEXANDER
HOBSON R. REYNOLDS
Chairmen

HEAR! ! HOBSON R. REYNOLDS
OVER WPEN THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28TH
7:00 to 7:15 P. M.

HEAR! ! RAYMOND PACE ALEXANDER
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"Why 100,000 Negroes Will Vote Democratic Nov. 2nd"

Mrs. Roosevelt Urges Support Of Negro Press In Address Before 3.000 In Harlem

By P. PRESTON RICHARDSON

Age

10-30-37

Harlem N.Y.

Declaring that "you here in Harlem have made great advance in the last few years, but you still have a long way to go, in education and in your sense of relation to the country," and that "in this country we should all have certain equal rights," Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the President, on Friday night, addressed an audience of over 3,000 persons who packed and jammed every inch of available space in Mother Zion A.M.E. to see and hear the wife of the President who was accompanied on the speakers' platform by Mayor LaGuardia.

Mrs. Roosevelt's visit to Harlem (the first since 1933) was made in the interest of the "Crisis," the offical organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which sponsored the meeting, and by her presence and voice urged its support, "for," she said, "it is a vital necessity that every minority group have an organ, for only by such an instrument can information concerning the needs of that group be disseminated."

Continuing, seh said: "I am glad to know that the Crisis goes all over the country and abroad. We need to know more about each other; what other people are going through. We must take the trouble to understand the rest of the country. And to get that understanding we have to depend on information that comes chiefly from our press. And because of this reliance on the press for information, because the press molds the opinions and ideals of the people, the press owes a great duty to the people; that duty is to see, that as far as facts go, the facts are stated truthfully. Facts should be stated as truthfully as possible always. The Crisis, I believe, performs that duty; and it deserves your support so that it may not have to curtail its opinions. The ultimate test of a democracy is its ability to stand up and let ideas be brought out. If a people can govern itself, it can stand a free press and will insist that the press be free, not tied to any one group, and charatcerized by absolute integrity."

Mrs. Roosevelt was introduced by Mrs. Frances Williams of the Y.W.C.A., who said, amongst other things: "These are hungry days in Harlem. Things are not working out so well for nine-tenths of the Harlem population. Of course, we have Health Centres, playgrounds, schools, etc., but these things just touch the fringe of our needs. Along with other things, we desire to be wanted by the country in which we live. We want a place in the family circle."

Referring to these remarks, Mrs. Roosevelt said: "You are not the only people who feel that you are not wanted. In this country we should all have certain equal rights. Minorities should certainly have the same rights as majorities. The government cannot do many of the things that can be done for the country, but the government can point the way. Minorities should not be left alone to work out their own difficulties. You can attain your ends if you will acknowledge your faults and try to bridge the gaps that separate you from other people."

On the platform beside Mrs. Roosevelt were many prominent persons, including editors, ministers and executives of The Crisis. Miss Lucille Armistead, a school teacher, was chairman of the meeting.

Following her formal address Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Morgenthau appeared briefly to the audience that packed the basement of the church, and then departed by taxicab amid cheers from the crowd.

Lieut. Samuel Battle, had twenty five patrolmen on hand and three mounted police officers stood guard over Mrs. Roosevelt's taxi as it waited. She was accompanied by Mrs. Henry Morgenthau jr., wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, and Mrs. Mamie James, one of the Roosevelt family maids.

Also on the platform were Miss Mary White Ovington and Miss Mary Drier.

Republican Pastor Urges Negroes To 'Vote Democratic'

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Oct. 28—Rev. C. R. Goggins, pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. Church and staunch Republican, [illegible] members of his congregation to support the Democratic party in the coming election. The eminent minister says, in view of the patronage given 'his race' by the Democratic party, it deserves the support of Negroes everywhere.

Negro Dems Celebrate In Mississippi

By C. I. CHAPMAN

Courier

11-27-37

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MOUND BAYOU, Miss., Nov. 24—The original celebration of the Colored Democratic Club of the South, covering the Mound Bayou Area, was held on the spacious lawn of the residence of Mrs. Stella Montgomery. A program arranged by the club was rendered as follows: Mrs. Mattie Walker, mistress of ceremonies. Prayer and song.

Prof. S. M. Brinkley, general secretary of the state was introduced and made a short address, touching the interest of all concerned. He was frequently interrupted by applause from the congregation which numbered several hundreds.

Mrs. M. C. Dozier, state organizer in a very humorous way, spoke of the parts assigned to the women members of the clubs.

C. I. Chapman, news reporter and organizer, remarks, touching the History of the Mound Bayou Foundation. Space was then given for enrollment of new members, about 150. Plans are being made to organize clubs in Alabama and Louisiana.

The interest shown by those who were present made the local club feel assured of nothing short of complete success. Prof. Curtis was on the scene and made everybody welcome. People from far and near came to make this meeting a success. At the close the congregation was served with barbeque of several kinds of meat, cake and other food.

Mr. Pete Moore is really on the job. He has made many friends and supporters for the colored Democrtic party in this section of the state. All who were present enjoyed the occasion.

OUR DEMOCRATIC LEADERS

Argus

11-26-37

St Louis Mo

As silent as we have been on the subject, we have nevertheless recognized the fact that our Democratic leaders in St. Louis and in the state, have not been able to get the benefit of the Negro Democratic vote in the city and state, because of lack of cohesion or working together, for the common good of all.

As we reflect the past, we are bound to admit that when the Republicans were in power in the state, the Negroes received little enough, in fact, what they received for keeping the Republicans in power for lo, many years, was too little. But we only got what we did through vigilant fighting, visits to the legislature, visits to the Governor of the state and repeated conferences with state and city officials.

The present situation in the city, state and nation is propitious for the Negro Democratic leaders to get together, plan a program and get results for the benefit of our race; if we only think—think not in terms of self alone, but think in terms of integrating and inter-weaving the welfare of the Negroes with that of the people of the city, state and nation.

The clarion call sounds loudest in our ears, right here in St. Louis. A little group here and a li[illegible] group there, and an individual here and an individual there, all aspiring for place and power for the benefit of "me and my gang," doesn't spell progress in a big way. Of course, there have been and always will be, factions in parties. Such factions sooner or later, spell the undoing of the party in power. But it so happens that we are a minority group. Our game in the scheme of things should and must be played differently.

Down in "lil' ole" New York, the center of the largest Negro population in the United States, a sad commentation was written at the recent election when Mayor La Guardia and his Fusion ticket were swept into office. A dismal picture in the scene at the city hall after January 1, 1938, when no Negro will be a member of the Board of Aldermen of America's greatest cosmopolitan city. This will be the first time in seventeen years that no Negro will be a member of the city's law-making body. All because somebody didn't think—that is, think logically and with reason. Four Negro candidates were seeking the same office; all under different names or factions. The result was logical. They all were beaten. None of them were able to poll enough votes to win, and the interests of the race have been sacrificed on the altar of personal ambition.

St. Louis, Mo.

It would be pretty hard, to be sure, to point one's finger at "Bill Smith" or "Tom Jones" and say, "you are the cause" of this loss, because every man has the right to seek public office. But to exercise one's rights is not always the most expedient thing to do.

The approaching political campaign in St. Louis, which, in a very short time, will have shaped itself almost to the point of determining the fate and fortunes of prospective Negro candidates for some of the minor offices, does not present a cloudless picture. The Negro Democratic leaders have the opportunity of their lives to make history for the Negroes in this city—It can be done if we only think. We are reminded here of a passage from the Holy Writ, which says, "Come, now, let us reason together, saith the Lord." Surely this is the time for us to reason together. Surely this is the time for us to think together. Surely this is the time for us to act together. Not only for the benefit of ourselves, but for our posterity.

Political - 1937

Party Affiliation

Democratic

Elizabeth City, N. C., Advance
February 8, 1937

Says Majority of Negroes Vote Democratic Ticket

W. P. Felton, Messenger To Farley, Back Home On Visit, Talks Politics

Contrary to the popular belief that the majority of the Negro votes in this county have been cast for the Republican standard bearers since the Civil War, more than 60 per cent of the entire Negro vote in the recent national election were cast for the Democratic ticket, revealed W. P. Felton, private messenger to Postmaster General James A. Farley and a member of the Negroes National Democratic League, while on a visit here last week.

Felton, a well educated Negro in his middle thirties, is a former resident of Elizabeth City but has been living in Washington a little more than 12 years. He is a former employe of the Foreman-Derrickson mills here.

He received his education at State Normal Training School here. He has served as private messenger for Postmaster General Farley since Genial Jim acquired that post four years ago.

Felton predicted that the Democratic 60 per cent of his race would be much in line with the present administration for the next four years.

Upon being reminded that his race might be accused of ingratitude for forsaking the political party which is generally credited with his enfranchisement, Felton replied, "Yes, sir, it is true that the Republican party under the leadership of Abe Lincoln brought about the enfranchisement of my race. But the leaders of the Republican party were then imbued with lofty ideals and humanitarian impulses.

"However," he continued, "the Republican party of Abe Lincoln is no more. Instead, its leaders are for the most part those who composed the membership of the Liberty League and whose controlling thought is that of special privilege and unbridled greed.

"No nation, much less a political party, can long endure when such motives and practices impel its leaders.

"We have been told," Felton said, "that the physical slavery of our fathers was horrible. I am inclined to the opinion that the type of Simon Legree was much exaggerated. But if not, the physical slavery of our forbears was nothing like so intolerable as the industrial slavery created by the leaders of the Republican party with their policies of privilege and greed.

"Our fathers did not have to worry about either food, shelter or raiment. This was provided, and oft times generously, by kindly masters. But this problem of food, shelter and raiment today staggers not only the colored man but the underprivileged white as well.

"The horrible conditions which confront the underprivileged of either race will not be abated under the present masters of the Republican party and this party cannot hope to stage a comeback until it has thrown off the oppressive yoke of its present masters.

"Don't you think that the present administration has been free in its use of the spoils system?" broke in an interested listener.

"No, sir," Felton quickly replied. "This matter has been grossly exaggerated in some quarters. I am, as I told you, connected with the post office department, and while I can speak only of this department, it is with some familiarity.

"In this department efficiency is the keynote. While the Honorable Mr. Farley is the postmaster general. the actual working of this vast department is under the personal supervision of the Honorable Smith W. Purdum, who is universally recognized as an authority in all matters pertaining to the postal service.

"He is a southern man, a native of Louisiana. He has been with the post office department for about 40 years, beginning his career as a railway postal clerk. His climb has been steady and commendingly meritorious.

"I am inclined to believe that other governmental departments are gradually but surely working to that degree of efficiency which characterizes Mr. Purdum's administration.

"It is the concensus of opinion in Washington political circles," concluded Felton, "that, should Mr. Farley vacate the high post he now occupies either as Mr. Roosevelt's successor as chief executive four years hence or otherwise, Mr. Purdum will logically succeed him as postmaster general."

Greenwood, S. C. Index-Journal
January 29, 1937

COLORED BALL HELD TONIGHT

White People Are Invited To Be Present As Spectators

William D. McGowan, general chairman for the Roosevelt Ball, states that James Hunt and his committee report that everything is in readiness for the colored Roosevelt Dance, which will be given at the Greenwood Log Cabin, at the Fair Grounds, tonight, commencing at 8:30, with the twelve piece State College Collegians, of Orangeburg, playing. Admission will be sixty cents.

Hunt says this orchestra is unquestionably the best south of the Mason-Dixon, and he has not heard any orchestra north of the line. He states that the colored people are showing lots of enthusiasm over the dance, many tickets sold in advance, and that he expects a large crowd, not only from Greenwood but from Clinton, Laurens, Abbeville, Newberry, and other neighboring towns.

Hunt, the chairman, extends invitations to the "white friends" of Greenwood as spectators, who will be admitted for the amount of twenty-five cents.

Greensboro, N. C., News
January 22, 1937

LOCAL NEGROES PLAN BALL FOR PRESIDENT

Negro Elks Sponsoring First Negro Ball to Honor President's Birthday.

WILL BE HELD JAN. 28

Greensboro negroes, who did their part in re-electing him, will do their part in honoring Franklin Delano Roosevelt with what promises to be not only the first negro event of its kind but the liveliest birthday ball of them all.

Sponsored by Old North State lodge No. 87, I. B. P. O. Elks of the World, the ball will be held at the Elks home Thursday evening, January 28, two days ahead of the general celebration.

Carroll C. Inman, local chairman of the President's Birthday ball, who is directing arrangements for celebrations at the O. Henry and King Cotton hotels Saturday, January 30, has fully sanctioned the negro entertainment, it was stated Thursday.

W. J. Johnson, general chairman of the negro merry-making, which, like the ball being presided over by Mr. Inman, will be for the benefit of a campaign against infantile paralysis, has as assistants George W. Doak,, secretary; J. H. Dillard, treasurer; H. A. Waddell, chairman of ticket sales; J. C. Crump, chairman of arrangements.

Committees to supervise the floor and door and take care of the enormous crowd anticipated at the Elks home next Thursday night and many sales units have been selected by Chairman Johnson.

Winnsboro, S. C. News & Herald
April 1, 1937

AN "UNRECONSTRUCTED REBEL" SPEAKS HIS MIND

In the current issue of this newspaper is a thought-provoking letter from the pen of Mr. J. F. McMaster. We welcome it and would like to receive other letters of a similar nature on local and national problems. Such discussions should prove helpful and perhaps would tend to stimulate independent thinking, the lack of which the writer deplores.

The accompanying letter expresses the sentiments of many a troubled South Carolinian. Frankly, the intricate and delicate questions involved are quite beyond our depth, and we readily admit that we know few (if any) of the answers. However, we shall endeavor to touch on a few aspects of the situation. as we view it.

As the writer suggests, James A. Farley unquestionably imported the negro minister to Convention Hall in Philadelphia to help corral the negro vote in the Northern States for the Democratic Party. Not even the most ardent New Dealer entertains the thought that Catholic Jim imagined for one moment that the prayers of the blackamoor would bring blessings from heaven in any other form than negro votes. But in that we see no great crime. Although since the War Between the States the Republican Party has garnered the lion's share of the colored votes, numbers in the North regularly vote the Democratic ticket and have for years. The negro vote, then, was not a question of precedent or principle but one of degree, and Mr. Farley, who doesn't believe in taking chances where votes are concerned, went after this vote in ruthless fashion, and got it. Thereby he shocked many a Southern Democrat, and not the least of these was Ellison Durant Smith.

The Senior Senator couldn't stomach negro speeches in the Democratic Convention, so taking a cue from his illustrious namesake (Al), out he walks in a huff. For years, he has sat in the same hall in Washington (with a negro congressman who has the privelege of the floor, but apparently that is a horse of another color.

Obviously, negroes do not belong to local Democratic clubs because they do not vote in town primaries here, the 14th amendment to the contrary notwithstanding. But they have voted in considerable, though not alarming numbers, in the North for many years and in that we see no great cause for consternation. The system in South Carolina has apparently worked well, there being certain precedents and traditional requirements which have limited the vote. The question will probably not even be raised unless Senator Smith tries to make capital out of it.

We are of the opinion that Mr. Roosevelt has the good of the whole country at heart, the South not excepted. Certainly this section is better represented in the present administration than in any since 1860 and South Carolina has a member of the cabinet—a rare thing indeed. Nor can it be said that the President is ignorant of conditions here, for he spends much of his time in Georgia —in fact owns a plantation there.

We also believe that the cooperative policy (call it "rubber stamp," if you like) as practiced by Jimmy Byrnes has been of much greater benefit to South Carolina, than has the obstructionist policy of "Cotton Ed." And when the Senior Senator from South Carolina, in the year of our Lord 1937, says the only trends that we recognize in the Palmetto State are States' Rights, tariff for revenue and white supremacy, he is sadly understating the case. For these reasons: States' Rights is more of a phrase than a fact, has been since Andrew Jackson balked the Nullifiers over a hundred years ago. With the years the National government has become stronger, exercised more jurisdiction within the several states. In accepting grants from the Roosevelt administration our state is admitting her incompetency to handle internal present-day conditions, thus weakening her claim to independence. Tariff for revenue only, although incorporated in every Democratic platform, is never practiced for the simple reason that the Democrats do not remain in power long enough to effect reductions. For political reasons, they often vote for protection to please industries within a certain state. As the South becomes industrialized, there is small likelihood that the tariff for revenue will ever be had. Perhaps the President's reciprocal trade agreements and subsidies to farmers—since the tariff is a subsidy to manufacturers—is the next best bet. White supremacy, in politics at least, is a fait accompli in South Carolina. Why talk of it?

Senator Smith has, for 30 years or more, fought the good fight for the cotton farmer. He has been independent and consistent — of that there is no doubt. But cotton is no longer king. We are diversifying, industrializing. However, we have no particular aversion to seeing "Cotton Ed" remain in the Senate, would not jump for joy were he replaced by Olin D. Johnston. Senator Smith's drooping mustache, together with the rasping voice of Carter Glass, the shaggy mane of the Lion of Idaho, the white heads of California's Johnston and Nebraska's Norris, does much to make the U. S. Senate one of the most picturesque and independent legislative bodies on the globe. But we still contend that Smith's philosophy is out of tune with the times.

Independence for principle's sake is an admirable quality of which we have all too little. But independence for obstinacy's sake is quite a different thing, and failure to take note of changing conditions can be fatal When a man's through changing he's through.

DEMOCRATS OF L. I. CONVENE

Age

Many Prominent Democrat Leaders Are Listed On Confab Speakers Bill

5-29-37

As The Age went to press the annual convention of the Queens County United Colored Democratic Committee, scheduled for sessions on Monday and Tuesday, got under way at Fannetta Hall, 107-50 New York boulevard, Jamaica.

New York, N.Y.

The convention was scheduled to open at 3 p. m., and close at midnight of each day. Listed among the speakers were Demorcatic County Leader James C. Sheridan, Aldermanic President William F. Brunner, Congressman William B. Barry and Matthew J. Merritt, Sheriff Arthur Jaeger, Alderman James A. Burke, Magistrate Benjamin Marvin, Municipal Court Justice Edward J. Smith, Postmaster Gilbert W. Rosenquest, Zone Leader Pierce J. Whalen, Chief Assistant District Attorney James J. Conroy and Assemblyman Mario Cariello.

In honor of delegates to the convention and their friends, an afternoon tea was given by Mrs. Evelyn Crabb at her home, 140-02 Linden boulevard, South Ozone Park on Sunday. The function took place between 4 and 7 p. m.

At 8 p. m., Sunday evening a pre-convention sermon was delivered by the Rev. Edward Ernest Tyler at the Allen AME Church, South and Washington streets.

POLITICAL NOTE

Crossing the Line

Time (magazine)
6-14-37
New York
N.Y.

"A few miles from my home there is an imaginary line. . . ." With these words Pennsylvania's Governor George Howard Earle last week startled 600 members of Washington's Southern Society dining in the Willard Hotel. His hearers, being Southerners, supposed at once that he was referring to the color line. Only two years ago his Legislature passed and he proudly signed a law giving Negroes equal rights with whites in all Pennsylvania's hotels, shops, restaurants, theatres (TIME, Aug. 12, 1935). Useful as that law has been in winning Negro votes for the Democratic ticket in Pennsylvania, today, when Governor Earle has become an aspirant for the Democratic nomination for President in 1940, it is a major embarrassment.

Only for a moment, however, did Governor Earle leave his hearers in doubt about his imaginary line. "From my present home," he said, "it is only an hour's drive to the Mason-Dixon line. From my birthplace in Chester County, it is even closer. . . . Whether I am north of it, in my home, or south of it on my farm in Cambridge, Md., I find men and women occupied with similar problems. . . ."

Thereafter he had only the kindest words to say of that section of the U. S. which reveres both the Mason-Dixon and the color lines: "Was it not the Solid South, bulwark and Gibraltar of Democracy, that gave us Franklin Delano Roosevelt as President of the U. S.?* I need not tell you how that solid, united support of the South saved our Nation from destruction. . . . It was a Virginian, George Washington. . . . It was another Virginian, Thomas Jefferson. . . . It was Old Hickory Jackson, from Tennessee. . . . We need, above all else, peace. . . . Our great Secretary of State, Cordell Hull of Tennessee. . . . Mrs. Earle . . . a daughter of the Blue Grass State of Kentucky. . . ."

By the end of his speech there could be no doubt that Governor Earle had undertaken a great feat, never before performed by man: having made a political crossing of the color line, to make a political crossing of the Mason-Dixon.

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*The correct answer to this rhetorical question is, of course, No. Had the South voted solidly for Hoover in 1932, for Landon in 1936, Franklin Roosevelt would still have been elected in each year by a big margin

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FIGHT LAUNCHED ON PRIMARY LAW; WILLIAMSTON CONFIRMED AS LEADER OF PETITION BATTLE

Battles Tells Negro Democrats That Civil War Settled Issues Raised in New Statute

olliver Forces Vote Test on Chairmanship

Negro Democrats from almost every section of Oklahoma gathered in Oklahoma City Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at the call of Sam Battles, Democratic state chairman, and Dr. H. W. Williamston, Idabel. The meeting was held in the Slaughter Hall. Williamston was recently named by Battles to head the drive to repeal the new primary election law recently passed by the legislature.

The meeting opened with fully 150 citizens present, quite a few of whom were local Democrats, and with Dr. Williamston presiding. Following a preliminary statement in which Dr. Williamston asked for support from the members of the Negro Democratic Central Committee in putting over the petition drive, he then presented Hon. Sam Battles.

"I am a friend of the colored people of Oklahoma," declared the Democratic chairman in his opening remarks as he opened an attack on the recent legislature which passed a bill, earmarking Negroes who hereafter might seek places on the ballot during election years.

"The issue of who should vote and who should run for office was settled by a great war," declared Battles. "We later confirmed the issues decided in that great civil strife by writing three amendments to the constitution of the United States, the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments, and I say here and now that those wro wrote and voted for such provisions in our state laws are not true Americans," declared Battles.

The Democratic chairman said he was not coming over into the Negro section saying what he was not saying to white Democrats. "I have made this same statement to white audiences where there were no Negroes present, and say here and now that Negroes are just as much entitled to representation in our state legislature, where they do not have representation, as any other unit of our state's population."

Deafening applause punctuated the gripping address of the Democratic state chairman who said he wanted the Negroes of the state to know that the rank and file of the Democrats of the state feel just as he does regarding the unfairness of the present primary law.

The fireworks proper started in the meeting when Rev. D. C. Miller of Coalgate, following a rousing address, offered a motion that the action of Chairman Sam Battles in naming Williamston, be approved, and that in addition, Williamston be endorsed to take the place of O. B. Jefferson, deceased, as state chairman of the Negro Democratic Central Committee.

Attorney oJseph Evans, Okmulgee, immediately sprang to the floor with objections. Evans said he wanted to endorse the choice of Williamston to head the drive for the recall petitions, but he thougst any attempt to seat Williamston as chairman of the committee was out of order. He made a motion to table the Miller motion, but this motion to table was lost 23 to 9.

The motion then occurred on the question of the legality of the motion and Rev. R. C. Bryant, who was in the chair, engaged in a lengthy colloquy with W. H. Tolliver of Ardmore, during which time Tolliver forced the issue and the vote was taken. This vote showed 21 to 17 for Williamston.

J. Henry Ferguson, secretary of the Negro Democratic Central Committee, then took the floor and alleged that there were folk voting who to his certain knowledge were not members of the committee. He produced his records. Chairman Bryant then called for the central committeemen to come to the front. A lengthy argument ensued following which it was declared that no action could be taken on the question of succession to Jefferson because the meeting was not called for that purpose.

A unanimous ote was then taken endorsing Dr. Williamston to head the drive against the new primary law. Literature brought to the session and petition forms were then distributed by Dr. Williamston and Chairman Sam Battles. All present were united in protesting against the offensive article five of the new law. It provides that the word "Negro" shall be placed behind each candidate other than of the white race who hereafter runs on the ballot in Oklahoma.

Black Dispatch
7-24-37
Okla City

Black Dispatch
7-24-37

Oklahoma's Negro Democrats

The amusing feature regarding the meeting that was held by Negro Democrats Sunday, at which time the question was raised as to the right of the Democratic state chairman to name someone to head the Negro Democratic Central Committee, rests in the fact that the man who led the fight in opposition to such a plan or policy, is the same individual who accepted a similar position at the hands of Sam Battles during the campaign to elect E. W. Marland governor of Oklahoma.

It will be recalled that the late O. B. Jefferson and Dr. I. W. Young were at loggerheads during that campaign. Each one of these men were claiming to be the rightful head of the organization. Mr. Battles, secretary of the Central Committee, had charge of the campaign of the Democratic Central Committee, being given this responsibility by J. B. Moore, Democratic state chairman, Ardmore. It was Mr. Battles who named J. C. Evans, Okmulgee, J. J. Josephs, Oklahoma City, and C. R. Buford, Berwyn, to manage that campaign. Evans was named chairman of the group. Mr. Evans accepted a position which utterly ignored both Jefferson and Young. He accepted authority to run the campaign among Negroes direct from Mr. Battles, and not from the Negroes of this state.

We simply publish this statement in order to keep the record straight. We wonder if Mr. Battles was not surprised Sunday to see opposition coming from Mr. Evans, who at a time when Mr. Battles had a campaign fund to spend, arbitrarily accepted authority from Mr. Battles to dictate policies and run the campaign in a manner that totally and completely ignored the Negro Democratic Central Committee.

So far as the Black Dispatch is concerned we say now and we have always said, that there is wholly no necessity for an organization such as a "Negro Democratic Central Committee." Here we are living in a state where Democrats are liberal enough to allow Negroes to organize precinct caucases, send delegates to county and state conventions, and organize their voting precincts with Negro election officials. In the midst of such an ideal situation along comes Mr. Jim Crow black man and voluntarily organizes a separate and distinct unit of the party.

There never was and there never will be any justification for such an organization except to give preferment to some particular job-seeking black man. The man who organized the committee was a chronic job-seeker and his successor and all who have sought to inherit the job except Dr. Williamston, are applicants for state positions within the gift of the governor.

At the present time we understand that a man at Muskogee, who wants to succeed Major McCormick at Taft, is a candidate for chairman of the Negro Democratic Central Committee, and still another lawyer at Okmulgee is a candidate, and he has been seeking a job for the past ten

Black Dispatch
7-24-37
Oklahoma City
Oklahoma

years as a gift from the state. Oklahoma City has another candidate and he also wants a job.

How could the interests of the 200,000 Negroes of this state be served by such an individual? When he gets the job he seeks are his hands not tied and his lips sealed? Remember what Oscar DePriest said some years ago: "Never select a hungry dog to watch your smokehouse."

Of course, we are sure that we are butting against a brick wall when we talk against the Negro Democratic Central Committee. It has served individualism too well in Oklahoma. To talk about taking a self-respecting place in the party caucas, convention and voting ranks of the Democratic party is just so much poppy-cock to the pie-counter boys. It would, however, be a fine thing to hold a funeral and sing the doxology over a great and colossal political mistake.

But since we cannot hold the funeral we want to offer a little advice to the boys who were present Sunday wanting to know the authority of the state chairman to do this or that or the other. We understand clearly the autonomy supposed to belong to an independent body. We can understand the rage that comes to a man when he discovers an interloper in his home.

But is the Negro Democratic Central Committee an independent body. Our answer is "No." It ought to be, but it never will be until the men and women who guide its destinies seek some way to supply the economic underpinning of the organization.

Take, for example, the Saturday protest meeting held in Oklahoma City. Fifteen Negroes landed in town without enough money in their collective pockets to rent a hall. They stood out in the hot sun and grumbled for four hours and finally took free domicile in an undertaking parlor. Somebody will always dictate policies for such folk. Mendicants are not rulers. Money always has the last word in everything.

It is the common knowledge of all that the Negro Democratic Central Committee does not function in political campaigns except when funds are furnished by the Democratic State Central Committee. Money dictates the policy of everything. As long as the white Democrats of this state furnish money for a Negro organization the leading white Democrats will dictate who spends that money and how. The truth is, the white Democrats will run that Negro organization arbitrarily and without any regard as to the black man's wishes so long as he is financing it.

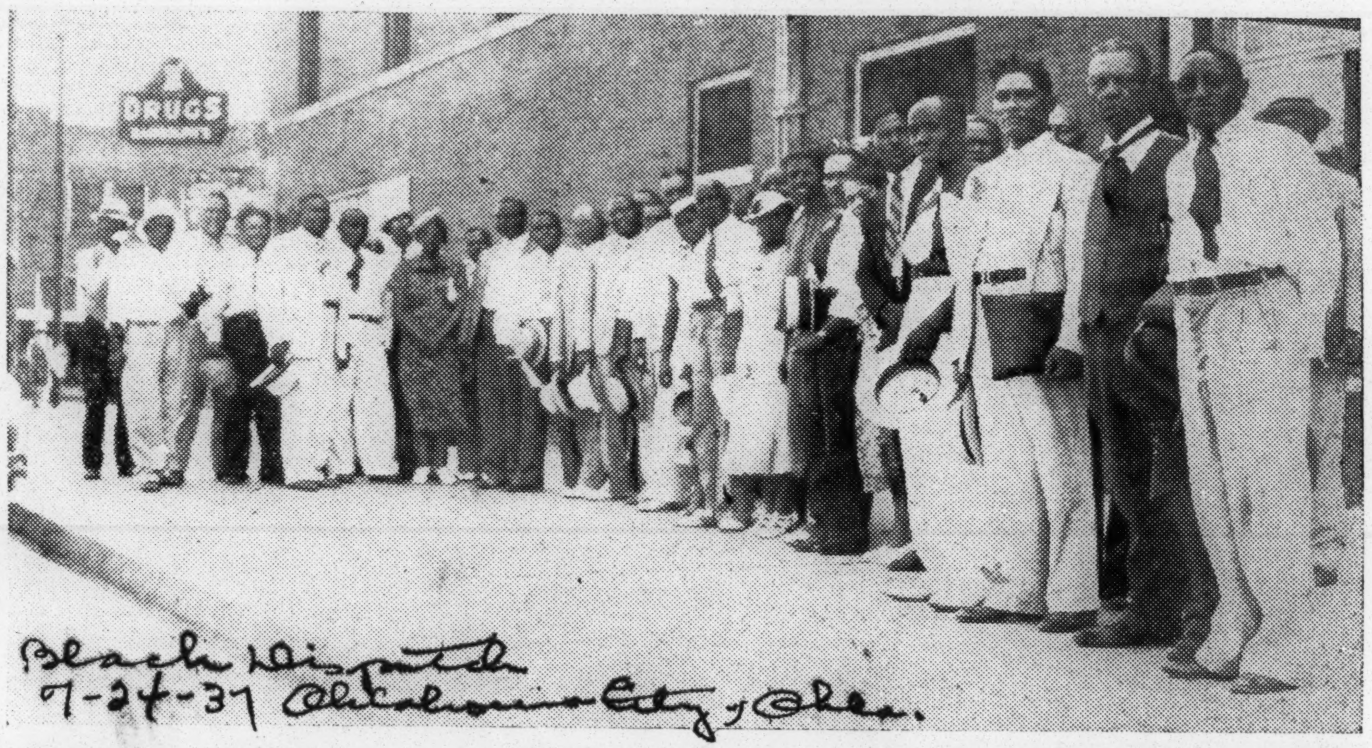
We recall the day when this writer twenty years ago first sat on the Republican County Central Committee of Oklahoma county. Such a thing as a Negro being a member had never happened before and there were many scowls and frowns during the session. Several insulting remarks were directed at this writer, but at the close of the meeting the chairman asked for contributions to start a campaign fund. Several put in one and two dollars. It was right there we saw our chance to be counted in right, so we strained a point and shoved out five dollars. Needless to say, that for sixteen years the Republican city and county committee never met but that this writer was called. He was recognized as a pitcher and not a catcher on the Central Committee.

There's a whole lot of difference between cranking your motor and sitting around waiting for someone to crank it for you. The other fellow knows whether you are pushing the wagon, or merely occupying an empty seat on the wagon he pushes. That's the funny side of the last Sunday meeting. The fellows who questioned the right of the state chairman to name a man to head the organization were in fact riding in an empty seat in a wagon pushed by the State Democratic Central Committee.

Just this and then we are through. Whether regular or irregular, the designation of Dr. W. H. Williamston as a Democratic leader in the fight against the new primary law by Chairman Sam Battles does bring to the front a man who is not a job-seeker. Dr. Williamston has one of the most unusual dental practices, regardless of race, in Oklahoma. He would not have a job as a gift from the state because the state could not offer him anything comparable with what he has created for himself. Whether Mr. Battles has ever read the constitution of the Negro Democratic Central Committee we can all agree that for once the Negro Democrats have a man guiding an effort who is not looking cross-eyed at a six-bit job. It is this type of man who if he were state chairman, would be able to burn his bridges behind him and go out to do a day's work in the interest of the common weal.

Black Dispatch
7-24-37

State Negro Democrats Meet In Capital Parley



Black Dispatch
7-24-37 Oklahoma City, Okla.

Leading Democrats from all over Oklahoma came to Oklahoma City Sunday at the call of Sam Battles, Democratic state chairman, and Dr. H. W. Williamston, Idabel, named by Battles to head a state drive against the new primary law. A part of the group was caught by the Black Dispatch photographer in front of the Slaughter Hall at the close of the session. (Story in another column)

Political-1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic.

United Negro Democrats Invited To Take Part In Inaugural Parade

1-8-37

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—The secretary of the United Negro Democrats of Missouri has received an invitation from the inaugural Committee inviting Negro Democrats of Missouri to take part in the parade of the inauguration of Governor Lloyd C. Stark, who will take his seat, Monday, January 11.

Many Negro Democrats thruout the state are expected to be present. Lincoln University's band will also take part. It is understood that the St. Louis Negro Central Democratic Association is planning to send a large number of delegates to take part in this affair.

Woodson Named President of Pa. Democrats

[illegible]-23-37

Local Organization Selects Committees for The Year

The Pennsylvania State Colored Democratic Club of the District of Columbia, held their regular monthly meeting at the Twelfth Street YMCA, on last Thursday, and a large number of Pennsylvanians temporarily residing in the District, took out membership.

The club held the election of officers and those elected were as follows:

W. O. Woodson, president; Mrs. Mayme Gates, vice president; Alex A. Maney, executive secretary; Dennis Thomas, secretary; Henry C. Edwards, treasurer; Elaine Gates, assistant secretary.

The committees are:

Finance committee — Frank Warner, chairman; Edward W. Harris and James Armstrong.

Membership — George H. Seymour, chairman; Vivian White and Walter A. Davis, Jr.

Auditing — Robert S. Taylor, chairman; Alma Reed and Harlan A Carter.

Social — Harry F. Newberry, chairman; Franklin Woodson, Mrs. Evelyn E. Woodson, Elane Gates, E. O. Chislen, Allen Atkinson, Alma Reed, Clarence W. Banks, Lynn Hoyt.

Publicity —George H. Wallace, chairman; Mayme Gates, James Shorter and James L. Armstrong.

Information Bureau for Pennsylvanians attending the inauguration is open at Room 205 Lewis Building, 2001 Eleventh Street, Northwest.

Houstons at White House Luncheon

G. David Houston, former Harvard classmate of the President, who headed the committee on special entertainment, with offices in the Commerce Building, attended a White House buffet luncheon, with Mrs. Houston, immediately after the inaugural address.

Their daughter, Miss Ethel Houston, sat with them in the section of the reviewing tsand reserved for inaugural officials.

Mr. and Mrs. Houston heard the inaugural speech over the radio.

For the first time in history, representatives of weekly newspapers—ten in all—were given press and photographers' credentials admitting them freely to the Capitol Plaza, on an equality with whites.

Wanton in Honor Guard

The President's honor guard included Sergeant George H. Wanton, holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Seated in the grandstand as special guests of the inaugural committee were the Rev. Walter H. Brooks, veteran pastor of Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, and Mrs. Brooks.

Others seen included Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, special administrator of the National Youth Administration; State Senator Charles C. Diggs of Michigan; Mrs. Crystal Bird Fausett of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Julian D. Rainey of Boston, and many others.

No official inauguaral ball was held this year, although many of the visitors attended the dance of the Bachelor-Benedict Club at the Lincoln Colonnade.

PARTY HEADS AMONG RITZY HOTEL DINERS

MRS. BETHUNE THREATENS TO WALK OUT

Afro-American
1-23-37

President Roosevelt was inaugurated for his second term, Wednesday, in a blaze of glory.

Baltimore, Md.

Democratic leaders, who flocked here from every State in the Union, included three Presidential electors: Dr. William Worthy of Boston, Dr. Godfrey Nurse of New York, and Harold E. Bledsoe of Detroit.

Indications that Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune might not remain to witness the second inaugural of President Roosevelt because of the apparent grouping of colored guests in the last row of Section A, were given just before noon.

Mrs. Bethune entered the section at 11:15 a.m., having been preceeded by Mrs. Galena A. French of Topeka, Kans.

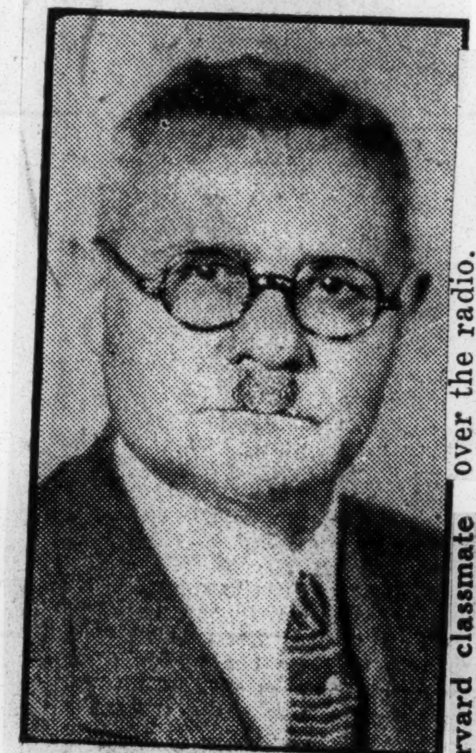
Mrs. French, buttoned up tightly in a brown fur coat, stayed about half an hour then left to go back to her hotel to hear the speech over the radio.

Mrs. Bethune's seat number was 1739. She also remained about half an hour then left.

Lowering temperatures and a drenching rain greeted the spectators.

The seats believed to have been reserved for colored persons had typewritten notices that they are reserved. Seats not in the last row of Section A had no similar notices. White persons were observed to seat themselves at random in unmarked seat.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR



DR. WILLIAM WORTHY of Boston, Mass., presidential elector from Massachusetts, who attended a reception and dinner with the electoral colleges in Washington, January 19. He was also one of the special guests at the inauguration and at a reception and tea given by President at at the White House

Afro-American 1-23-37

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The three electors were guests at dinners in the Willard and Mayflower Hotels, as were Congressmen and Mrs. Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois and Judge Armond W. Scott of the D.C. Municipal Court.

Political-1937
Party Affiliation.

Democratic.

United Negro Democrats Invited To Take Part In Inaugural Parade

1-8-37

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—The secretary of the United Negro Democrats of Missouri has received an invitation from the inaugural Committee inviting Negro Democrats of Missouri to take part in the parade of the inauguration of Governor Lloyd C. Stark, who will take his seat, Monday, January 11.

Many Negro Democrats thruout the state are expected to be present. Lincoln University's band will also take part. It is understood that the St. Louis Negro Central Democratic Association is planning to send a large number of delegates to take part in this affair.

Woodson Named President of Pa. Democrats

January 23-37

Local Organization Selects Committees for The Year

Washington, D.C.

The Pennsylvania State Colored Democratic Club of the District of Columbia, held their regular monthly meeting at the Twelfth Street YMCA, on last Thursday, and a large number of Pennsylvanians temporarily residing in the District, took out membership.

The club held the election of officers and those elected were as follows:

W. O. Woodson, president; Mrs. Mayme Gates, vice president; Alex A. Maney, executive secretary; Dennis Thomas, secretary; Henry C. Edwards, treasurer; Elaine Gates, assistant secretary.

The committees are:

Finance committee — Frank Warner, chairman; Edward W. Harris and James Armstrong.

Membership — George H. Seymour, chairman; Vivian White and Walter A. Davis, Jr.

Auditing — Robert S. Taylor, chairman; Alma Reed and Harlan A Carter.

Social — Harry F. Newberry, chairman; Franklin Woodson, Mrs. Evelyn E. Woodson, Elane Gates, E. O. Chislen, Allen Atkinson, Alma Reed, Clarence W. Banks, Lynn Hoyt.

Publicity —George H. Wallace, chairman; Mayme Gates, James Shorter and James L. Armstrong.

Information Bureau for Pennsylvanians attending the inauguration is open at Room 205 Lewis Building, 2001 Eleventh Street, Northwest.

Houstons at White House Luncheon

G. David Houston, former Harvard classmate of the President, who headed the committee on special entertainment, with offices in the Commerce Building, attended a White House buffet luncheon, with Mrs. Houston, immediately after the inaugural address.

Their daughter, Miss Ethel Houston, sat with them in the section of the reviewing tsand reserved for inaugural officials.

Mr. and Mrs. Houston heard the inaugural speech over the radio.

For the first time in history, representatives of weekly newspapers—ten in all—were given press and photographers' credentials admitting them freely to the Capitol Plaza, on an equality with whites.

Wanton in Honor Guard

The President's honor guard included Sergeant George H. Wanton, holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Seated in the grandstand as special guests of the inaugural committee were the Rev. Walter H. Brooks, veteran pastor of Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, and Mrs. Brooks.

Others seen included Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, special administrator of the National Youth Administration; State Senator Charles C. Diggs of Michigan; Mrs. Crystal Bird Fausett of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Julian D. Rainey of Boston, and many others.

No official inaugural ball was held this year, although many of the visitors attended the dance of the Bachelor-Benedict Club at the Lincoln Colonnade.

PARTY HEADS AMONG RITZY HOTEL DINERS

MRS. BETHUNE THREATENS TO WALK OUT

Afro-American
1-23-37
Baltimore, Md.

President Roosevelt was inaugurated for his second term, Wednesday, in a blaze of glory.

Democratic leaders, who flocked here from every State in the Union, included three Presidential electors: Dr. William Worthy of Boston, Dr. Godfrey Nurse of New York, and Harold E. Bledsoe of Detroit.

Indications that Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune might not remain to witness the second inaugural of President Roosevelt because of the apparent grouping of colored guests in the last row of Section A, were given just before noon.

Mrs. Bethune entered the section at 11:15 a.m., having been preceeded by Mrs. Galena A. French of Topeka, Kans.

Mrs. French, buttoned up tightly in a brown fur coat, stayed about half an hour then left to go back to her hotel to hear the speech over the radio.

Mrs. Bethune's seat number was 1739. She also remained about half an hour then left.

Lowering temperatures and a drenching rain greeted the spectators.

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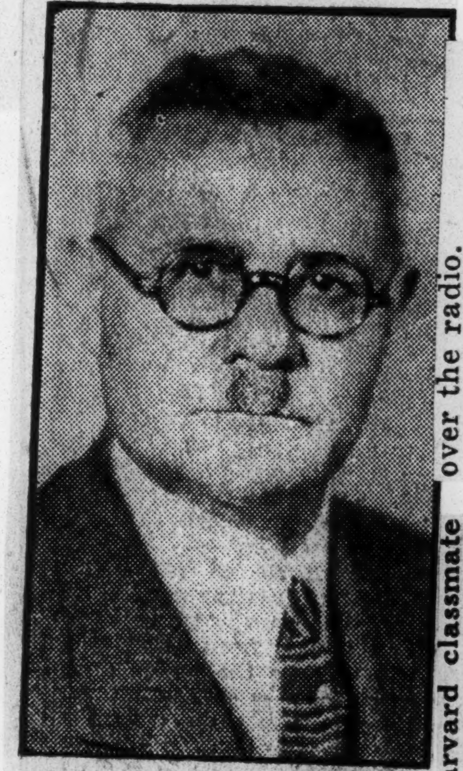

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The Aristocratic Democrats Of Alabama

Advertiser 1-29-37 Montgomery Ala

Who are Alabama's best people? The Rammer Jammer ought to know, for it lives with them.

All over the world there is talk of rule by "superior" people and, with it, a belief in superiority as between one individual or group or race and another. In Russia, Japan, Italy, and Germany, those in control consider themselves and their followers superior and make the consideration an excuse for dictation. And even in England, France, and our own country, refusal to recognize a superiority obtained by force and held in arrogance is coupled more and more with recognition of the need for some sort of quality in the midst of democracy. No matter what the system of government, autocratic or democratic, certain groups are always going to dominate. Their domination may not be expressed in political or economic power, although usually it is. It may be expressed in influence upon the tastes of the public, upon the national way of life. Always, everywhere, there is an aristocracy in one sense or another. The problem is how to make its members worth their name.

* * * *

What Americans are most worth the aristocratic name, most entitled to set the mode and lead the way for the rest of us? The answer is sure. They are the Americans who are blessed with enough of education and detachment to concern themselves fruitfully with truth for truth's sake, art for art's sake, life for life's sake. They are the ones whose tastes and tasks relieve them of frenzy for a profit on investment, release them to things as a whole, the whole country, the whole scheme of things, the whole span of living. They are the ones who look down upon no masses nor up to any classes. They are the Americans who engage most nearly in "the good life" as the Greeks knew it.

For further identification, let it be said that these American aristocrats live on or near a campus. They are the professional group at places like the University of Alabama, it liberal arts colleges. These are the professors and their families. They are very simple folks. They don't dress well as a rule. Rarely do they have impressive fronts to their faces or their houses. They gossip and play bridge and golf and tennis and go to the movies and argue about inanities, sometimes just like the rest of us. Some of them are bolshevists. Some of them are bourbons. Some of them even. are bounders. But, for all that, they are aristocrats Aristocrats in the best and only sense possible in America.

* * * *

They are aristocrats because their point of view is at once educated and detached. They have the qualifications and the opportunities for looking at life in all its dimensions and reporting faithfully what they see. Their minds are devoted to tidings and discoveries for humanity as a whole, and the devotion is in most part genuine. From the vulgarities that go with wealth and from the vulgarities that go with poverty they are permitted to be free. To every problem offered them they are in a position to make intelligent and dispassionate reply. Beauty and truth, art and altruism, are the vocations of all of them and the avocations of most of them. They are under no tradition of cupidity or of getting ahead of anybody.

They live on or about the campus, these American Aristocrats, and when they leave it to become brain trusters or crusaders in no-matter-how-holy a cause they are likely to leave their aristocracy, too, even though they may be of much public service. They give up their detachment, and that is as important as education to the aristocracy in question.

* * * *

No letters patent of nobility have been issued to these aristocrats, and there are many who would deny their title, claiming precedence for a totally different type. There are many too who would properly say that even if these are the American aristocrats their province and place are limited and that men of a tougher order are needed to do the great everyday tasks. But, granting this, who can deny that in a world which seems to require some sort of superior people to look up to, none are more worth the upward looking? The undergraduates over whom they preside are destined to no such life as they lead, true; but an undergraduate, who has learned through contemplation of them to appreciate such a life and to prefer it and remember it in harshly competitive days to come, is armed with a truly aristocratic ideal for his encounters with democracy.

Without such an ideal, without such an education and detachment, it is becoming apparent now, democracy cannot survive.—John Temples Graves II, in Rammer Jammer, student publication of the University of Alabama.

Greensboro N. C. Patriot
January 25, 1937

LOCAL NEGROES PLAN BALL FOR PRESIDENT

Greensboro negroes, who did their part in re-electing him, will do their part in honoring Franklin Delano Roosevelt with what promises to be not only the first negro event of its kind but the liveliest birthday ball of them all.

Sponsored by Old North State lodge No. 87, I. B. P. O. Elks of the World, the ball will be held at the Elks home Thursday evening, January 28, two days ahead of the general celebration.

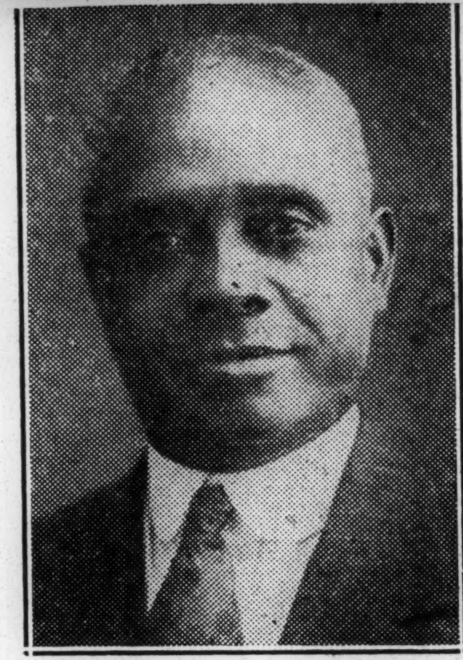
KENNEY TELLS OF INAUGURAL

Chronicle

Represented Commonwealth as Presidential Elector

1-20-37

The inability of Dr. William Worthy to attend the inauguration of Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt through indisposition, caused the Democratic State Committee to find a worthy successor at the eleventh hour. A ready selection fell on David Kenney,



CONSTABLE KENNEY

Constable of the City of Boston, leading Democrat. And so Mr. Kenney went to Washington as one of the presidential electors of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Meets the President

Returning to Boston last week Mr. Kenney was interviewed by a CHRONICLE representative, and expressed his keen satisfaction at the reception and hospitality which he enjoyed in the nation's capital.

"I was treated," said he, "in a manner befitting a presidential elector. Joseph Moore, chairman of the Presidential Electoral College Committee spared no effort to entertain his guests. He received me personally and saw that I was accorded every courtesy."

Mr. Kenney displayed some eight or nine cards that were necessary to pass an elector through all the protective barriers. These included a diamond-shaped yellow card for his automobile, as well as a badge and ribbon for his coat lapel. He attended the Committee meeting and banquet in the Hotel Mayflower, had a place of prominence and honor at the Inaugural and went to the White House reception and tea where he personally conversed and shook hands with President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

"Mrs. Roosevelt is grand," commented Mr. Kenney, "she wouldn't stand at the head of the receiving line, but moved about among her guests and chatted informally with them."

There were only two other colored presidential electors at the Inaugural, namely: Dr. Godfrey Nurse of New York and Atty. Bledsoe of Detroit, Mich.

Mr. Kenney's life in Boston has been one of continuous service to his people, and he is ever ready to fight for their rights whenever called upon. Recently he was instrumental in replacing in WPA jobs two young ladies who had been unfairly dismissed.

NEGRO DEMOCRATS MEET AT TIPTO

Argus

7-9-37

St Louis Mo

TIPTON, Mo. — The Exe utive Board of United Neg Democrats of Missouri met a Tipton, Monday July 5th, 193 adopted a revised constitutio elected officers for the ensuin four years and attended othe business of the organization.

The meeting was attended b nearly one hundred delegate from St. Louis, Kansas Cit Hannibal, Sedalia, Marshall, Je ferson City, Boonville and othe cities out state. There were tw sessions, morning and evenin which were presided over b the President Mr. Felix Payn of Kansas City. The followin officers were elected to serve u til 1941:

Felix Payne, President; D Arthur Kinloch, of Kinloch, Fir Vice President. Other Vice Pre idents are: Fred Ferguson, Se dalia; Mrs. P. Ruby Perdea St. Louis; Edgar Woolwary, Ma shall; Dr. G. B. Key, St. Louis Dr. Tillman, Kansas City Thomas J. R. Wilson, State O ganizer, Jefferson City, Mo.; David M. Grant, St. Louis, Executive Secretary; Ehtel Bowles Tipton, Recording Secretary; Joe Long, Hannibal, Chaplain; Perry Ambers, Hannibal, Treasurer; Mr. Rollins, Boonville, Sergeant of Arms; C. Lopez McAllester, Hannibal, Chairman of the Executive Board.

There was an outdoor barbeque, a ball game, sack and egg races and fire works for the entertainment of the visitors, aside from a delicious mid-day luncheon, which was served in style.

Letters authorized to be sent to the two Senators of Missouri, urging their support of anti-lynching legislation. The State Planning Board, which consists of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor and Attorney General was requested by a resolution to see that the interests of Negro prisoners were safeguarded in the present rehabilitation, program now unde way and that Negro prisoner be fairly considered in t h e proposed prison improvement The organization listened with interest to the report of Attorne David M. Grant, who reporte for his Committee on its activities in behalf of Industria Home for Negro Girls at Tipton.

A report from the retirin Executive Secretary, Thomas J R. Wilson, on legislative matters as well as his activities a lobbyist for the Organizatio during the last session of th Legislature was received and approved and a committee wa named to continue his work a the State Capitol. The Kansa City American was adopted a the official organ of the Organization.

Plans were laid for a monste convention of the Organizatio to be held this fall at Jefferson City and Messrs Payne, Wilson, Grant and McAllester were named as a Detail and Arrangements Committee for the proposed Convention. The Treasury was enhanced by generous donaions by the visiting delegate following which there was adjournment.

Political-1937
Party Affiliation

General

From Easton, Md., Charles William Mims writes as a southerner by "birth and environment" to urge a reunion "of the south and west politically, as they were before the Civil War." He favors, also, "a two-party system in the south as well as in all other parts of the Union." We agree with him about the need of more political competition in the south. As for political union with the west, it has already come about, it seems to us. The most remarkable political sleight-of-hand ever accomplished was that by which the Republican party persuaded the agrarian west to string along with the industrial east, but the last few elections have shown that the legerdemain doesn't work any more.

Constitution
4-3-37
Atlanta Ga.

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Editor Julian Miller of the Charlotte Observer, thinks the sort of statesmanship the south needs now is not political, but "agricultural and economic." And he nominates as such a statesman Dr. Clarence Poe, famed editor of the Progressive Farmer. We second the nomination.

Constitution
3-3-37
Atlanta Ga.

Johnson City, Tenn. Chronicle
September 2, 1937

The Great Game Of Politics

By FRANK R. KENT

(Copyright, 1936, By The Baltimore Sun.)

—o—

MR. GUFFEY'S "SERVICES"

In their franker and confidential moments the practical politicians, regardless of parties, are never far out of accord about fundamental political facts. For example, the Democratic as well as Republican ward and precinct workers are in complete agreement with the machine leaders in every large city that the two most potent political factors back of Mr. Roosevelt in 1936 were the voters allied with organized labor and the negro voters in the big and usually debatable States.

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It is all very well to talk about "overwhelming popular sentiment," but those were the groups which elected Mr. Roosevelt, and every posted politician and competent observer knows it. It is not a partisan allegation—it is a simple statement of fact. Moreover, both were manipulated groups, carefully cultivated and nourished through four years of Federal favors, jobs and White House support. This being so, it makes clearer the immense political services—not at all disinterested, but still services—rendered Mr. Roosevelt by Senator Guffey, of Pennsylvania, and explains why that sharp gentleman has gotten, and still can get, practically anything he wants of this Administration—why he has gotten twice as much as anyone else.

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Because the truth happens to be that, more than any other person, Mr. Guffey is responsible for the solidity with which these two groups have supported the President and today constitute so large a part of his political assets. The part played by Mr. Guffey in bringing Mr. Lewis and the President into close contact and cooperation has been told before and is well known. It is not secret that the relations between them which led to the C. I. O. contribution of $700,000 (that is the figure of Mr. Roosevelt's friend, Mr. George Creel) in money and 5,000,000 (such is the C. I. O. claim) in votes, were originally promoted by Mr. Guffey, whose alliance with Mr. Lewis goes back to 1933.

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All that is well known, but what is not so well known is the part played by Mr. Guffey in corralling the big negro vote of the Northern States which for three generations had been the basic asset of the Republican party. The inside Democratic Committee estimate is that upward of two million such votes in eight States were swung from the Republican to the Democratic ticket last year. Of course, it could not have been done without the relief money, but even with the relief money it could not have been done but for the ground work by and through Mr. Guffey. It was Mr. Guffey who in 1933 "sold" the Administration the idea of capturing the negro vote in the swingable States. It was Mr. Guffey who in that year induced Mr. Roosevelt to appoint as Special Assistant to the Attorney General Robert L. Vann, the negro lawyer and newspaper owner of Pittsburgh, whose influence among his race is very great.

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All Mr. Roosevelt asked when urged to make the Vann appointment was this: "Does he have to be confirmed by the Senate?" When assured that he did not, Vann was promptly named. This was the highest office to which any negro had ever been named by a Democratic President, and only one in history had a Republican President given a negro an office of equal rank. Heretofore, under Democratic Presidents negro appointments had been limited to messengers, janitors and elevator men. Naturally, the Vann appointment made a considerable sensation among the negroes, but, not having to go to the Senate and coming in the early excitement of the first New Deal, attracted practically no attention outside. In the course of the next three years it was followed by between 150 and 200 appointments of negroes, not to menial positions, but to real Federal jobs with salaries ranging from $2,500 to $7,500.

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In brief, wholly aside from the extraordinary proportion of negroes on the relief rolls, the Roosevelt Administration has given to negroes more and better Federal jobs than any Republican Administration ever gave them. It cashed in very heavily on this in the campaign. Early in the year Vann resigned as Special Assistant Attorney General to take charge of the first negro division the Democratic National Committee had ever established. Promptly, on Mr. Guffey's recommendation, George Hamilton, another negro lawyer of Pittsburgh, was given Vann's position. A vast amount of literature was distributed and money expended by the negro division. Negro preachers, editors and teachers on the Democratic pay roll traveled up and down the country "selling" Mr. Roosevelt to the negro voters. The Rev. Dr. Stanley High, with his well-financed Good Neighbors League, made a particular appeal to the negroes. Secretary Ickes made a speech to a negro audience denouncing segregation ordinances and picturing Mr. Roosevelt as determined to see that the negroes get their "rights." Hundreds of thousands of copies of this utterance was distributed by the negro division. All in all, it was an unprecedented drive and the results were extraordinarily good—from the New Deal standpoint.

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"GO DOWN MOSES"—

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Journal and Guide 10-28-31

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Colored Americans must take the long view. They must consider basic issues and weigh carefully promises against performances. Human rights, full American citizenship are the principles for which they must work.

The right to vote is more important than a thousand political jobs. Equal educational opportunity amounts to more than a hundred $10,000 jobs. The abolishment of the peonage system, which enslaves millions, would be of greater value than any job any political party can bestow upon any colored man.

Naturally, we are pleased when colored men and women receive important political positions. They ought to have more and bigger ones. But if the Republican Party had not fought for the enfranchisement of colored people they would not be able to vote in Pennsylvania any more than they can in Texas. And if they did not have the right to vote in Pennsylvania the Democratic Party would not want them.

As a great human right, a matter affecting the lives of millions of colored citizens, the right to vote outweighs all the political plums ever doled out by all political parties.

"That is old history," some people say. But, is it? What party TODAY prevents colored citizens from voting? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY keeps millions of colored children from receiving an education? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY forces colored people to endure the agonies of hell in the world's worst peonage system? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY forces colored people to ride in filthy jim crow cars? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY is fostering a wage hour bill which permits lower wages for colored workers? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY put a member of the Ku Klux Klan on the Supreme Court Bench? The Democratic Party.

When these conditions were called to the attention of a Democrat, who holds a job, he stated that he was not interested in the conditions of his people in the South. Can one imagine a more heartless man? He is not interested in the welfare of his own people because he enjoys a little liberty. It does not matter to him that the Democratic Party enslaves millions of his people elsewhere so long as he receives a morsel for his own shrivel stomach under the disguise of helping his people.

On the big issues, the issues of liberty and human rights the Democratic Party has been and now is the enemy of colored Americans. But what of political jobs? If one could believe Democratic orators, colored people never had political jobs until Jack Kelly became the boss of the local Democrats.

E. W. Henry was appointed a Magistrate, Chas. Fred White and Robert J. Nelson were appointed Athletic Commissioners by a Republican governor. E. Washington Rhodes was an active Assistant U. S. Attorney as a Republican. Wm. H. Fuller is now an Assistant District Attorney. John Sparks and Sadie Alexander are Assistant City Solicitors. John P. Turner is a member of the School Board. Ernest T. Wright is a Deputy Recorder of Deeds. All are Republican appointments.

The Republican Party elected James H. Irvin as a member of City Council. For years Republican Representatives went to Harrisburg. John C. Asbury was an attorney in the Auditor General's office. But more important are the hundreds of men and women employed as policemen, firemen, employees in the offices of the Recorder of Deeds, Receiver of Taxes and other departments in City Hall.

We do not mention these jobs as evidence of satisfaction, anymore than colored citizens should be satisfied with the appointments which the Democrats have made.

Yesterday and today the Democratic Party has been the worst enemy colored Americans ever had. The principles of the Republican Party have been friendly. The Democratic Party can not be separated into a Southern and Northern Democratic Party. The Democratic Party is the DEMOCRATIC PARTY regardless of how hard some people try to make it one thing in the North and something else in the South.

Colored people may not strengthen the Democratic Party in the North without tightening the chains of disfranchisement, segregation and peonage around the necks of millions of their brothers and sisters who cry out for help from the swamps of the Democratic Party.

basic issues and weigh carefully promises against performances. Human rights, full American citizenship are the principles for which they must work.

The right to vote is more important than a thousand political jobs. Equal educational opportunity amounts to more than a hundred $10,000 jobs. The abolishment of the peonage system, which enslaves millions, would be of greater value than any job any political party can bestow upon any colored man.

Naturally, we are pleased when colored men and women receive important political positions. They ought to have more and bigger ones. But if the Republican Party had not fought for the enfranchisement of colored people they would not be able to vote in Pennsylvania any more than they can in Texas. And if they did not have the right to vote in Pennsylvania the Democratic Party would not want them.

As a great human right, a matter affecting the lives of millions of colored citizens, the right to vote outweighs all the political plums ever doled out by all political parties.

"That is old history," some people say. But, is it? What party TODAY prevents colored citizens from voting? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY keeps millions of colored children from receiving an education? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY forces colored people to endure the agonies of hell in the world's worst peonage system? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY forces colored people to ride in filthy jim crow cars? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY is fostering a wage hour bill which permits lower wages for colored workers? The Democratic Party. What party TODAY put a member of the Ku Klux Klan on the Supreme Court Bench? The Democratic Party.

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General.

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Party Affiliation.

Coming to Split the South

When the former lobbyist, Joe Guffey, delivered himself of that inept farrago of nonsense against Democratic opponents of administration radicalism his principal accusation was that men like Senators Burke, Wheeler and O'Mahoney were guilty of "ingratitude."

But if reports be true the President himself is about to become guilty of an unprecedented degree of ingratitude by coming into the South to carry out his program of reprisal and as a necesary consequence split wide open the Democratic party which has so signally honored him.

The history of the Democratic party for a hundred years has been the history of the Solid South marching faithfully to the polls, voting for the Democratic nominee with mouth open and eyes closed. Time after time a split in the Solid South would have made Democratic success impossible. We have had few of the rewards of victory. The South is essentially agricultural, but farmers have been compelled to sell their products in an unprotected market while everything they had to buy was bought in a protected market.

The South has had utterly inadequate representation on the Interstate Commerce Commission and it has been impossible to do away with the gross inequality in freight rates which place this section in industrial bondage to the East.

This injustice has been only partly redressed by the South's natural advantages which enable the worker to enjoy the same standard of living at lower money wages than are paid in the East. It was recently shown in these columns, for example, that fuel costs in the South are 70 per cent less and rent 25 per cent less than in New England.

The iniquitous Black-Connery bill, which was stifled in the House Rules committee largely by southern members, would have destroyed the natural advantages of the South. One of the opponents of the Black-Connery bill was Senator Ellison D. Smith, of South Carolina.

It now appears that Mr. Roosevelt, in addition to his visit to the West, where he will attack Senators Burke, Wheeler and O'Mahoney for their opposition to the court-packing bill is arranging for a trip to South Carolina, where he will make an assault on Senator Smith. We are specifically told by the Washington correspondent of the Charlotte Observer that Roosevelt will take as his text the alleged statement by Senator Smith that 50 cents a day was a fair wage in the South.

Of course the South Carolina senator made no such statement, but when did a little matter of the truth make any difference to the present occupant of the White House? The substance of Senator Smith's general statement was that if 50 cents could purchase as much in one place as $1.50 could purchase in some other place the inequality was not as great as it might appear. It was the same thing as if he had compared $5 to $15, and in neither case would he have been using the unit as a fair day's wages. Perhaps it is also true that living costs in the South, as a whole, are not one-third of what they are in the East, although, as we have just seen, this is more than true of the important item of fuel.

What is more, it is just plain nonsense to be pinning on Senator Smith a specific statement that 50 cents a day is enough for a worker in the South and nobody knows this better than Franklin D. Roosevelt.

But the radical demagogue of the White House has lost all sense of fairness and of common sense, so he is to take a general figure of speech used by an opponent of his infamous hours-and-wages bill and proposes to come into the South and defeat him, if he can, by ringing the changes on 50 cents a day for labor.

He is coming into the South to destroy the 'traditional party of the South and set up the party of William Z. Foster and John L. Lewis. He is coming into the South to destroy democracy in its broader sense of the rule of the people and set up the rule of a little oligarchy at Washington, recruited from the followers of Felix Frankfurter. He is coming into the South to enthrone the communistic CIO, which still flaunts its defiance of law and order by proclaiming its adherence to the sit-down strike. He is coming into the South to convert a comparatively happy and prosperous section of the country into an area of strife and bloodshed, with flying squadrons of alien Reds forcing upon Southern workers the alternative of joining the closed shop and paying tribute to CIO or being forced into starvation.

He will come, not to bring peace but a sword.

And this is the man who, in his better days, when he was pledging allegiance to states' rights, when he was proclaiming that there was no master mind who could do all the thinking for 130 million people, won the support and affection of the South.

Sharper than any serpent's tooth is this base ingratitude.

Fortunately the whole South is beginning to rouse itself. One newspaper after another is throwing off its slavish allegiance to a man of whom former Senator Thomas W. Hardwick said in his article in Monday's Telegraph "Whatever party livery he may wear, whatever party banner he may fly, whatever he may call himself, or thoughtless men may call him, he is, at least, NOT a Democrat."

Men like the unspeakable Guffey seek to lull the people into tranquility as to the growth of the Communist movement in this country. They point to the small number of members actually enrolled in the Communist party. They ignore the deeper strategy of Moscow. Men like William Z. Foster are smart enough to know that the very name of Communism is still repellent to millions of Americans, even of the most liberal school. But what does Moscow care about labels so long as it gets results?

The Communists themselvees say they are satisfied with CIO, and CIO claims to have more than three million members. In the political field CIO is throwing its strength to Labor's Non-Partizan League and the American Labor party, both of which are the creatures of John L. Lewis. Is it no small matter that CIO counts on having the balance of power in the next national election? Is it no small matter that CIO is now making a desperate drive to capture the South? So what is this process but the destruction of the Democratic party and turning the fragments into a movement whose avowed philosophy is to take over the government by force and violence?

Last and not least important, Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith was an active Democrat when Roosevelt's interest was confined to selling depreciated German paper marks to a gullible public. For thirty years he has carried his state as a Democratic Senator while Roosevelt can't even carry his own Congressional district for the Democratic party. He was laboring for the best interests of the South while Roosevelt's only claim to distinction was that possibly his name could be found in the Social Register.

And yet this Roosevelt is coming into the South to tell our people how to vote—coming out of pure malice because Senator Smith is a Democrat and not a Communist.

He should meet the reception he so richly deserves.

Telegraph
8-31-37
Macon, Ga.

SOUTH MUST STAND FIRM.

(From The Nashville (Tenn.)
Banner.

"It is time for the Democracy of the south, today, to decide again whom it will serve. Whether it should follow after the false gods of bureaucratic, regimented, socialistic fascism, as revealed in the program of the radical groups in the administration, or whether it shall enlist under the banners of true Democrats and continue the long struggle to preserve the sanctity of the constitution and the fundamental liberties of the people."

The foregoing, assuredly words of soberness and truth, are part of an editorial appearing in The Atlanta Constitution. There is no newspaper in all these states, the traditions and record of which confer higher authority to speak of the south and for it.

The service to the section and to the nation which the Georgia newspaper is performing today stirs the memory of Henry W. Grady, its great editor of over a half-century ago, who, upon a New England platform, gave voice to the fraternity and faith of the new south, made appeal to the nation to bury the spirit of sectionalism, and who when he died, as a memorial in Atlanta attests, "was literally loving a nation into peace."

It was the spirit of the Howells—a name inseparably interwoven with the struggle for the rights of the south, men who in the counsels of state and nation have proclaimed the principles of Democracy even when they were in the eclipse of a generation ago—that speaks in this appeal of today to the Democrats of the south that they measure to the demands upon their courage and patriotism.

It is not a sectional but a national service which The Constitution urges, for in resisting wrongs to these states embodied in legislation which narrowly escaped enactment in the session of congress just ended, and which the powers at Washington have announced will be pressed for passage when congress reconvenes, the south

Constitution
9-5-37

Atlanta Ga.

would also be defending the highest interests of the nation and the fundamentals of its free institutions.

Within the week events at the national capital have clearly foreshadowed that another effort, new only in its method of procedure, to render the supreme court a certain and servile instrument for executing the will of a President is assured for the early future; and that the southerners—and others—who recently refused to be intimidated into surrender of their consciences and betrayal of their country are to be banished from party recognition and public life.

Did not those men perform a duty to the nation and honor a national trust in saving the federal judiciary from despoilment; and will not the south be defending the liberties of a whole people in protecting the southerners who have incurred the wrath of radicalism and inflamed lust for power that is being fully revealed at the national capital?

Is not the opposition led by southern senators to a proposal that the 133 federal agencies—including those of even a quasi-judicial character, like the Interstate Commerce Commission and Federal Trade Commission — should be turned over to a President's exclusive control a duty to an entire country to save it from a one-man government?

The south, it has become plain, must save the Democratic party and itself and in accomplishing this challenging commission it will be saving the republic.

THE SOUTH IS RUDELY CHALLENGED.

From The Charlotte (N. C.) Observer.

Constitution

The Atlanta Constitution's Sunday edition carried but one editorial, but it was a rousing call to the people of the south to maintain the political, social and industrial faith of their fathers against the encroachments being made against it by the new-angled philosophies of reformers who are self-styled liberalists.

9-5-37

The Constitution sounds the note for the composite voice of the dominant Democracy of the south.

It bespeaks, also, in this stirring and challenging appeal the political conceptions of a vast proportion of the Democratic press of the south.

Atlanta Ga.

This press has been variously named within recent months.

Because it has had the fearlessness to speak out in furtherance of the ideals of constitutional democracy, it has been branded as being bourbon and tory and reactionary and a "tool of the interests," puppet of vested privilege and power.

Undoubtedly, the south is in a precarious strategic position insofar as having a voice of importance and influence in the national councils of its party.

So long as the two-thirds rule was honored in convention technique, the south had a strong hand and a place of conspicuous leadership in formulating the policies of the national party.

But with this rule abrogated, and abrogated largely because the President asked that it be, the south is practically now at the mercy of a few industrialized states and their large populous centers.

The situation does constitute "A challenge to the south" which is the title of The Constitution's able and inspiring review of the present status of the party.

Southern Editors Call for Loyalty To Principles

Constitution

"A CHALLENGE TO THE SOUTH."

From The Lynchburg (Va.) Advance.

The bold attempt of the socialistic element, which at present seems to hold the reins of the national Democratic organization, to read out of the party those southern leaders who stand fast for political principles which the Democratic party in the south has maintained, is causing many southerners to consider seriously the situation in which the Democratic party now finds itself, and particularly to consider the evil effects upon the south of policies which barter away southern interests for the sake of perpetuating northern, boss-ridden political machines by securing the radical CIO vote and the negro vote in the Harlems of various metropolitan centers of the east and middle west.

9-5-37

One of the south's most influential newspapers is The Atlanta Constitution. It has never wavered in its support of the Democratic party, but, firmly believing in the form of government which was created for this nation, and in the political principles of the Democratic party as laid down in nearly every national platform since it was formed and as stated by most of its chosen leaders through the decades, The Constitution looks upon certain trends of the present with grave doubts, as expressed in an editorial, captioned as above—an editorial so important and containing a message so timely for Virginians as well as for Georgians, that we devote our editorial space to its reproduction.

Atlanta Ga.

TIME TO TAKE STOCK.

From The Lynchburg (Va.) News.

Constitution

The News publishes this morning an editorial from The Atlanta Constitution. It has never waver- to Take Stock" and invites the attention of its readers, especially its Democratic readers, to it.

9-5-37

The Democratic party in the nation faces a split which may assume wide proportions. One cause of that split is the unwillingness of certain southern Democrats to betray the fundamental principles of the Democratic party as they have known in all these years, to bow the pregnant hinges of the knee that thrift may follow fawning, to help strengthen the power of the executive by making him master of the highest court in the land. Another cause of that split is the apparent determination of the "New Deal" die hards to force them into line or throw them out of their historic party.

Constitution Ga.

Under the circumstances it is time for southern Democrats to take stock. It is time for them to decide whether they are to accept the doctrine of socialistic fascism, the theory that a majority can do what it will and the minority has no rights calling for respect, or cling to the Democratic faith. "Certainly there have been few times in the history of the party when it has been as important as it is now that the Democrats of the south take stock to judge on what path the future leads."

Walhalla, S. C. Courier
September 9, 1937

ROOSEVELT ~~AND ED~~ SMITH

Some political observers say that the President is coming into South Carolina and take the stump against Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith sometime before the election next year. Ed, you nnow, opposed many of the New Deal plans, such as revamping the Supreme Court, the wage-hour proposal, the anti-lynching laws and other proposed legislation which would not have been for the good of the South and probably not for other sections of the country. We trust that the prediction that Roosevelt is coming to this State on such a political mission is wrong. We believe the President would lose rather than gain support by such a move. He wants to see all men who opposed his plans defeated and replaced with good "yes men."

Senator Smith may have made some mistakes in things he fought and supported, but as a whole he worked for what he considered the best interests of the people of South Carolina and the nation, as he has always done. South Carolina has no better friend in Washington than "Cotton Ed," who has served long and faithfully, and it should be left up to the people to decide whether or not they want to keep him in Washington. The people of this State nor any other State in the Union needs to be told just who they should and shouldn't send to Washingon.

Of course President Roosevelt is still popular with the masses and would be -re-elected now if the election were to be held over at this time, but he has lost a lot of support in recent months and will continue to lose more unless he changes his tactics somewhat. And here is another hope that we have heard expressed in many quarters: that the President will not see fit to offer for a third term in 1940.

Roosevelt and the New Deal would immediately lose the bulk of its support without delay should all government relief be cut off. Even many who are yet staunch supporters of the President, would see things differently if their government gravy train should quit running. And much of this government spending will be cut out some day.

Anyway, if the President should decide to honor South Carolina with a visit and speech, let us hope the purpose of this coming will be for some reason other than the defeat of Cotton Ed, one of the very few real Democrats left, and one whose services have been and still are invaluable to the people of his home State, the whole South and the nation. South Carolina has two good men in the Senate and we believe the people will send them back. If they saw faults with some of the proposed New Deal legislation, the chances are that the faults were real and not imaginary.

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trib-
September 8, 1937

HAMPTON APPEALED

To those South Carolina newspapers who have made much ado about Jim Farley soliciting Democratic votes from Northern negroes, we call attention to a letter recently unearthed in which General Wade Hampton made an appeal to former slaves for support in his race for governor in 1876.

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General.

A CHALLENGE TO THE SOUTH

It becomes increasingly evident that if government, as visioned by the fathers of the American republic, is to survive, and if faith in the men who wrote the federal constitution is to remain undimmed, the old-line stalwarts of Democratic faith in the south must reassume leadership and steer the party ship away from the shoals of socialistic experimentation.

Constitution

There must be a renewal of allegiance to that progressive Democracy which is the birthright of southern party leaders, and away from the radicalism, or worse, which seeks to seize control of the party and launch it on a program which veers away from the basic foundations of the American system of free, democratic government.

8-29-37

No section of the nation has given more wholehearted support than the south to the sound and progressive policies of the New Deal. It was only natural that the politically forward-looking south—the south of Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and a host of other far-visioned political masterminds—should approve efforts looking to a new understanding of social security and of equal opportunity for all—a program which lifts to new heights the fundamental ideals contained in the federal constitution.

Atlanta, Ga.

None desire achievement of these goals more ardently than the loyal Democrats of the south, provided the road followed remains within the bounds set forth by the constitution and does not stray to the bypaths either of special privilege or class dictatorship.

**

At the Philadelphia convention overwhelming approval of the sound policies of the New Deal was registered in the unanimous renomination of courageous leaders under whose guidance the nation had been started back on the highway to prosperity. The voters, in turn, gave overwhelming approval and indorsement to these policies and these leaders.

Nowhere, however, in the Democratic platform adopted at the Philadelphia convention—nor in one word uttered on the floor of the convention—is there to be found a hint of any forthcoming policies which, because of their very nature, would mean a scuttling of democratic government.

At that convention the two-thirds rule for nomination of candidates was abrogated. As a result of that abandonment of an ancient safeguard for southern Democracy there are now 13 highly industrialized states in the east and north which alone command sufficient convention votes to nominate national candidates and write the party platform, regardless of the attitude of the solid south.

Those 13 states are New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Add to this group California and their control becomes overwhelming.

In these 14 states are all the cities of the country with 1,000,000 or more population. With two exceptions only, St. Louis and Baltimore, they contain within their borders every city of 500,000 or more inhabitants.

The population of these 14 states includes 83 per cent of the foreign-born citizens, or those of foreign parentage, one parent or both.

It is from these states that nine-tenths of the radicalism in the United States springs today. It is in these states that the missionaries for strange foreign isms find the bulk of their converts. It is in the hotbeds of the crowded tenements that the half-baked theorists spawn and it is from the hybrid city Bohemias that the starry-eyed liberals, the pale pinks of pastel posturings, spout their impractical schemes.

It is not to be overlooked that most of these states are normally Republican in their party allegiance. Many of the rock-ribbed strongholds of Republicanism are listed in their number and, should their so-called Democratic leaders be permitted to retain control of the Democratic party, the anomalous result would be a party controlled by its delegates from normally enemy states.

The south always has been and always will remain primarily an agrarian section. The industrialized states have different problems. They cannot be expected to understand the problems of the south. This is normal and to be expected. But the south, for her own sake, cannot permit policies formulated by industrialized groups to fit their own peculiar needs, to become the national policies of the party, without regard for the needs of the agrarian south. The south must see to it that the party, in planning its policies and drafting its platforms, gives full consideration to the needs of the agricultural sections, as well as the thickly populated industrial areas.

The policies promulgated at the last session of congress and which went down to, at least temporary, defeat because of the opposition of the old-line Democrats, mainly from the south, bear the unmistakable stigma of the radicalism that is strongest in these industrial states.

**

Democrats of the south have given greater allegiance to President Roosevelt than to any president since Cleveland. They hailed his broad program of benefits for the submerged portion of the population because of the great humanitarian principles it embodied. They agree wholeheartedly in the objective of social security for all and a fairer division of the comforts of life.

But they cannot, and should not, condone abandonment of the fundamental principles of the American form of government, regardless of the objectives sought. There are ways to gain the ends desired in full accord with the limitations of the constitution and southern Democracy will support with all its strength a program that sticks to this safe rule.

Southern Democrats, as a whole, will not approve any action which undermines those constitutional safeguards of the citizen and of the individual state, nor can they stand blindly by and give unquestioning allegiance to policies which array class against class, which bestow special privilege upon one group at the expense of another and which make possible the substitution of mass despotism for government by all the people for all the people.

Party loyalty is an essential of orderly government in America—but it must not be permitted to transcend adherence to the basic principles of democratic government or be used by groups or sections to invade the rights of other groups or sections. Under such conditions party loyalty becomes an evil instead of an obligation, and the duty of the officeholder or political leader is no longer to party, but to his nation and his constituents.

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For more than a century the south has been loyal to Democracy. It has believed with all its political mind and strength in the Jeffersonian ideals of states' rights and the freedom of the citizen to pursue his lawful activities unhampered by unnecessary government restraint. It has held firm, through all its history, to the integrity of the federal constitution and the American system of free democracy.

The Democratic south is progressive. It recognizes that government, to live, must advance in ideals and in objectives. It is as anxious as any section or group in the nation for more equal opportunity, greater security and larger share in prosperity for all citizens.

But it appears today that the name "Democrat" has been misappropriated for a theory utterly at variance not only to the principle on which the Democratic party was founded but to the ideals of the creators of the American republic.

It is the heritage of the south to lead the party back to solid ground.

The Democratic south can, if it will, regain its place of influence in party councils. It can lead back to the principles of Jefferson, Jackson and the fathers of freedom.

Despite the loss of the two-thirds rule as a safety valve, despite the power of the radical elements within the party ranks, the Democratic south is thrice armed because its cause is just. Holding firm to its standard of adherence to true American principle, it must win to its banner the best leadership in every state in the Union.

Southern members of congress have, this fall, opportunity to test the sentiment of their constituents. Before congress reconvenes they

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General.

A CHALLENGE TO THE SOUTH

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Constitution

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But they cannot, and should not, condone abandonment of the fundamental principles of the American form of government, regardless of the objectives sought. There are ways to gain the ends desired in full accord with the limitations of the constitution and southern Democracy will support with all its strength a program that sticks to this safe rule.

Southern Democrats, as a whole, will not approve any action which undermines those constitutional safeguards of the citizen and of the individual state, nor can they stand blindly by and give unquestioning allegiance to policies which array class against class, which bestow special privilege upon one group at the expense of another and which make possible the substitution of mass despotism for government by all the people for all the people.

Party loyalty is an essential of orderly government in America—but it must not be permitted to transcend adherence to the basic principles of democratic government or be used by groups or sections to invade the rights of other groups or sections. Under such conditions party loyalty becomes an evil instead of an obligation, and the duty of the officeholder or political leader is no longer to party, but to his nation and his constituents.

**

For more than a century the south has been loyal to Democracy. It has believed with all its political mind and strength in the Jeffersonian ideals of states' rights and the freedom of the citizen to pursue his lawful activities unhampered by unnecessary government restraint. It has held firm, through all its history, to the integrity of the federal constitution and the American system of free democracy.

The Democratic south is progressive. It recognizes that government, to live, must advance in ideals and in objectives. It is as anxious as any section or group in the nation for more equal opportunity, greater security and larger share in prosperity for all citizens.

But it appears today that the name "Democrat" has been misappropriated for a theory utterly at variance not only to the principle on which the Democratic party was founded but to the ideals of the creators of the American republic.

It is the heritage of the south to lead the party back to solid ground.

The Democratic south can, if it will, regain its place of influence in party councils. It can lead back to the principles of Jefferson, Jackson and the fathers of freedom.

Despite the loss of the two-thirds rule as a safety valve, despite the power of the radical elements within the party ranks, the Democratic south is thrice armed because its cause is just. Holding firm to its standard of adherence to true American principle, it must win to its banner the best leadership in every state in the Union.

Southern members of congress have, this fall, opportunity to test the sentiment of their constituents. Before congress reconvenes they can, if they will, receive a mandate from the old-line Democracy of the south. They can return to Washington with the knowledge their people want them to continue the fight so well begun and to re-establish on firm foundation the Democratic party which now walks too close to the quicksands of radical experimentation.

Then, with the party once more firmly anchored to the rock of constitutional democracy, the southern Democrats can lead the nation toward achievement of those humanitarian goals which are the avowed aim of the President and which are so close to the heart of every true Democrat.

SOUTH, WEST—AND EAST

William Allen White, the Republican editor of The Emporia Gazette, of Kansas, seems somewhat disposed to get a bit funny at the expense of us lowly Democrats.

Says William Allen in his personal organ:

> In the fight that has just started between the old South and the new Democracy, the Senators from the old South are just beginning to be aware of the fact that Roosevelt is carrying a large and deadly gun. The gun is the resolution which the Democratic National Convention passed last year abrogating the two-thirds rule required for the nomination of Presidents.
>
> One-third and a little more of the Democratic National Convention is elected from the South and the border States. When two-thirds of the convention was required to nominate a Democratic president, the South had the veto power over the nomination. The South surrendered that power in the last Democratic convention—surrendered it for the first time in nearly a hundred years. The surrender meant the passing of power in the Democratic Party from the South to New England and the great city States. Fifteen industrial States east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and Potomac can nominate a Democratic president in spite of the South, in spite of the rural States of the Missouri Valley and the mountain States. So power now passes from those States in which the older American stock predominates—the English, the Scotch, the Irish, the northern European strains—and we have at least one party in the country which can be controlled by the cities wherein the great Democratic Tammanies now bossed by the Irish hold the votes of the foreign born and the children of the foreign born from the South of Europe.
>
> This new section of our population is willing to go the distance with Roosevelt. If he pauses in his leftward trek the industrial centers will follow a more radical leader. The shrewd, ruthless acumen which has guided the President in the White House for the last five years told him that if he achieved his program, made his conquest of America sure, he must put the South and the West in an impotent minority in the Democratic convention and do business with the industrial East.
>
> We hope the Kansas Democrats who are now the tail to the Roosevelt kite will know what they are up against. The President needs the West and the South merely for cheering purposes. He has his gun and when he needs to use it, nothing can keep him from getting the drop on the hicks from the corn belt and the cottonfields.
>
> The Democratic Party is on the march!

Yassuh! But so long as de Souf' and de Wes' are on de side of de biggest crowd dey will continue to have their bellows heard. Don't watch our smoke—listen out for our echoes.

We are sorta countin' on our kericter to see us thu'.

Advertiser 8/24/37

Montgomery, Ala.

Political-1937

Party Affiliation.

General.

Lynchburg, Va. News
December 15, 1936

A POLITICAL SCHEME

The remnants of the republican party in congress has had a bright light to break. They have, or so it is reported, a scheme that has the dual virtue of serving as a means of embarrassing the democratic members and at the same time win some support for the republican party in quarters where it was once supreme but is now without influence.

The scheme is to introduce at the next session of congress an "anti-lynching" bill similar to those that have been introduced many times only to die as result of inability to hold the republican party together for them. The idea is that the democrats in congress, who captured the Negro vote in the last election, will find it difficult to strangle such legisation in committee, that they will be compelled by the jibes and obstructionist tactics of the minority nd the lobbying of representatives f Negro organizations to permit the bill to come to a vote. Then, they anticipate, they can not lose. Demorats will have to vote for the bill or against it. If they vote for it the bill will pass and the "anti-lynching" aw will be on the books. And it will have been put there by the republicans, whose tactics compelled action. If the democrats vote against the bill it will be defeated, but the republicans will have the credit of having tried to pass it, and the democrats will have the discredit of having killed it. That ought to show the Negroes who are the real friends of the Negroes.

One great trouble with the scheme is that the Negroes of the country are not as ignorant as they were some years ago. They are not only better informed generally but they know more about politics. And the record of the republican party is against the schemers of today. That record is one of failure to enact any "anti-lynching" legislation. Though in power for most of the time since lynching became a national problem, they have never made any real serious efforts to solve it by federal legislation. It is true that a republican now and a republican then has introduced such legislation and has made a great fuss about it and it is true that southern democratic members of congress have stood almost solidly against it, but it can not be doubted by any Negroes that there have been many occasions on which the legislation could have been passed had the republican members of congress, or a decided majority of them, been sincerely desirous of passing it. For a small body of republicans without power or influence to band together now in favor of such legislation after years of inactivity and of indifference would be obviously a political maneuver and nothing else.

Nevertheless, southern democrats who oppose such legislation—and most of them do—may well hope that the scheme will not be tried. It is just possible that the maneuver might frighten democrats of the west and the east, where the Negro vote is strong, into supporting the bill. They might even undertake to forestall the little band of republican plotters by taking their bill away from them, adopting it as their own and shoving it through with a bang. Then they would be able to claim the credit and get votes for re-election from the Negroes in their district. Then the stubborn stand of southern representatives and senators, so long maintained, would be shattered and the federal government would exercise police powers within the states. And all without doing one thing to reduce lynching in the south or elsewhere.

◀ EDITORIALLY SPEAKING ▶

Informer
2-27-37
Houston, Texas

THE ANSWER IS "SENEGAMBIAN"

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To the clear cut statement in its editorial that "The INFORMER never claimed that Democrats would not let Negro workers out, when rolls were cut. Not even that they would not let out more Negroes than we think fair. We said and still say that Democrats control the jobs and we have no vote; that it is therefore better strategy to insist on being Democrats and claiming the treatment of Democrats than to court the treatment accorded Republicans by Democrats" The Defender answered that we sanctioned dismissal of relief workers and were "spineless and truckling Senegambians."

It is reminiscent of childhood, where we used to see little boys baffled and perplexed, fly into a rage and call names wildly and recklessly. In the Standard Webster's Dictionary the word senegambian is only carried in the footnotes and the definition is "Of or pertaining to senegambia." So as used, it was just another big word, used for effect and without any application. But even if it meant something as bad as it sounds, what the writer is, should be given merely as background to the answer one is about to hurl. But no answer or specific criticism was given to The INFORMER'S position stated above. In fairness we ought add that the editor knows two other epithets, he called us Uncle Tom and Sambo.

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The INFORMER is not so much interested in whether it is a leader and molder of thought, as it is in whether it is honest with its readers. When the list of those on the official payroll of the major parties during the last election was published, neither The INFORMER nor any of its officials were on the list. We sought no money for our support and we received none. None of our employees were on the government payroll. In short we were free to do as we pleased. We elected to serve the interests of Negroes of Texas.

How well we did so is attested by the fact that everything we told our readers came true. We told them the Republicans couldn't carry Texas. We told them that those, who were telling them the Republicans would carry Texas and urging them to vote Republican, were trying to use them for their personal gain. The Republicans made a miserable showing in Texas. Many of those who had urged support of the Republicans afterwards were found to have tried to get money from the Republicans or to have gotten money.

We aren't claiming that the receipt of money disqualified leaders of the opposing school to lead. But money is a powerful instrument to influence the decisions of men, even when they think they have safeguarded against such influence. We are advocating a leadership that is willing to refuse money and any entangling alliances. We doubt the sincerity of leaders, who can trust R. G. Creager, who led the Lily White Republicans so long, and can't trust President Roosevelt.

Nor can we take too seriously the cry that "big house darkeys" recently forging ahead, have obstructed these leaders, when we remember that these leaders had a clean field for nineteen years to "fight and strive," without having done one thing toward destroying the Democratic primary. What can those leaders show for those years of reckless fighting, besides a lot of broken relationships? There is no virtue in fighting like one who has run amuck

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With the virtual retirement of Editor C. N. Love C. F. Richardson became the dean of Negro editors of Texas. We assume that he has passed the days when he desires to offer "senegambian and Sambo" as an answer to arguments he doesn't like. We have had too much namecalling and emotion. We need a bit more study and thought. More discussion and less epithets.

Shall the people continue to blindly vote Republican? Is it the policy of the Negro-hating Democrats, that these old leaders are talking about, which is dominating Washington? Or is there a new kind of Democrat, who is doing better by us than the Republicans ever did? Are our leaders ignoring the Democrats that are in the saddle at Washington, to fight the shadow of the Democrats, who disfranchised us, but who aren't really controlling Washington?

WHICH WAY SHALL WE TURN?

We invaded the enemy's camp the other day and got three hours of good stiff argument for our daring. There were six stalwarts, who believe that our hope lies in following the Republicans. The barrage of words was heavy but one by one their guns were silenced until only two were mouthing. One of these said, "Well, I've thrown away my vote 43 years and I'll continue to do so until I die!" The other was starting back over the same ground, when we looked at the clock and saw it was after ten and we hadn't been home to dinner.

Informer

It was conceded by all that there is no present hope of getting the right to vote through the courts. It was admitted (by some freely and others reluctantly) that no real gain had been made under Republicans in the last thirty years. All agreed that Negro leaders had not been unselfish in the past years and had sacrificed the rights of the people for money. Likewise it was admitted that if all Negroes were registered, they wouldn't be able to defeat the Democrats.

It developed eventually that our major difference was one of procedure. One said we should junk the old leaders and start over with new leaders. Fine, but where are the new leaders? When you get them, can they beat the Democrats in Texas with the Negro vote? In short can 200,000 out vote 600,000.

3-6-37

Another said we must vote for candidates opposed to the Democrats. Fine again. But where are those candidates and when do they run? It was generally agreed that the Republicans had not really desired to build a strong party in Texas and therefore did not intend to help Negroes.

The ablest of them said in his view the only thing that counted was getting the right of a free and untrammeled vote in Texas; that our biggest trouble has been no good leaders with their hands out; that we must break the Democratic primary through the efforts of Negroes. Yes, we agreed, but how?

Houston, Texas.

His answer was by getting poll taxes paid and having leaders who wouldn't sell us out. We are for paying poll taxes. We are against leaders who take money from politicians on the promise of getting Negroes to vote the way the white man wishes. We believe the only thing that Negroes ought be interested in is getting to vote. One only needs to check his old copies of The INFORMER to find that we have preached these things.

But if every eligible Negro in Texas had paid poll taxes, we would have to have more than that to win our objective. The votes might tempt some ambitious Democrat to join us with his influence to break down the primary, or if Democrats needed our strength, they might let us in. That's a guess and a prayer. No better than our argument that by fighting from the inside we may get in sooner.

There is no use in discussing the argument that we ought have the present crop of leaders do anything. They all admit they are out for money and will sell out. Then why talk as if they are paragons of honor. To solve problems one must take the situation as it is. We don't have leaders. Then we must set that fact up as one of the equations in our problems.

Just voting for someone opposed to Democrats, won't further our aims. That someone must have sufficient following to unite with ours and beat the Democrats. So if we must have a strong candidate with a good following, we must set that up as a factor in our equations and not just vote for anybody who offers,—that's fighting like one who beats the air.

Finally, we shot the barrels off their guns when we pointed out that we had supported every effort to get poll taxes paid and had advocated the payment of poll taxes year in and out; that we had never opposed trying the expedient of getting enough voters to attract the greed of some ambitious politician; but that in the meantime we advocate using every other means at our hands.

Negroes don't think their politics, they feel them. We can't get started until we work up a good hate. If we could only grow up and learn that politics are only a means to an end. Negro leaders can't conceive of politics being anything but a fight between Democrats and Republicans with them champions of the Republicans. They won't see that Reconstruction days are over and Negroes must maneuver for whatever rights they get, instead of hoping the Republicans will send troops down again to put them in office.

To our suggestion that we get in the Democratic party they piously prate about the evils of a single party. As if that isn't what we already have in Texas! Unless one heard these arguments, he would believe that even a mosquito could see that once we got in the Democratic party the primary would end or be no trouble and there'd always be two factions.

We say get in the Democratic primary in Texas and you will have an effective vote in Texas. If you can get in by having what they want in the form of plenty votes, okay. If you can obligate them by voting for them even though barred and get in, okay. IN is what we advocate. We'll accept any plausible or logical method. Let's work to get a free unfettered vote.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
March 18, 1937

Negroes and Democracy

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—We think it will be conceded by those who are well informed that all political parties have their faults, that none have reached the ideal stage of perfection.

While the Democratic Party has been slow to accept the Negro as a member in its ranks, slow to permit him to participate in a Democratic primary, yet despite this slowness, despite the fact that it will still denies him certain rights and privileges vouchsafed to other party voters, we believe the Democratic Party under President Roosevelt offers the greatest hope for the Negro race of any political party in solving their social, economic and political problems.

After supporting, with unequalled devotion, the Republican Party for many generations; after making allowance for its slowness in fulfilling vital promises made; after failure again and again to meet the needs of their race in a long trial, intelligent Negroes believe they are justified in discarding the G. O. P. and in repudiating its policies.

Furthermore, they beileve there is an admonition to them in the Declaration of Independence, which says: "It is their right, it is their duty to throw off all allegiance to such party, and to provide new guards for their future security." We, therefore, urge Negroes everywhere to align themselves with the Democratic Party, and work for its continuance in power.

If President Roosevelt, backed by 27,000,000 votes recently cast by the people, is vested with authority to change the membership of the Supreme Court, he has authority to change the Negro's social, economic and political status; power to solve the problems confronting the colored race; and a mandate to "provide new guards for their future security," among which may be the reorganization of the highest court in the land. It has been done before. Negroes are not alarmed now.

THEODORE W. JONES.
Richmond.

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation

Historical

Fifty Years of Baltimore's Political History Reviewed

Afro-American

9-18-37

[illegible]

The political scene in Baltimore fifty years ago, when the AFRO-AMERICAN was in its swaddling clothes, was as interesting as the social and economic status of the 31,677 colored folk who make up the population of the city and surrounding sections.

When one understands that at that time there had not been one colored lawyer admitted to the Baltimore bar, that there was not yet a colored school teacher employed in the public schools, and that, with but few exceptions, the colored population had not yet flown from the little streets into the pretentious Druid Hill Avenue and other big streets, one can very well say that, taking fifty years ago as a starting point, the political life began from "taw."

Machine Politics in Vogue

Machine politics, fathered by William Pinckney Whyte, who came into power shortly after the Civil War when white men were making an attempt to follow the South in disfranchising colored voters in this State.

Mr. Whyte, after selecting his lieutenants, two well-known Democratic chieftains, Arthur Pue Gorman and Isaac Freeman Raisin, then young men, held the reins of party politics until the political revolution in 1895.

And it was during that revolution, just forty-two years ago, that colored voters had their first chance of demonstrating, in a positive way, their voting influence in a city or State election.

In the Democratic rift of that election, colored voters rallied almost to a man to the Republican party and helped to land Lloyd Lowndes in the governor's chair and Alceus Hooper into the mayor's seat at the city hall.

Spurt in Racial Politics

There was, of course, a spurt in racial politics, and emerging as time went on were Baltimore's first colored councilmen, Harry Cummings, Dr. Cargill and Hiram Watty, who made history during the following quarter of a century.

The direct political results of that election, however, was the appointment of Malachi Gibson, attorney, as secretary of the Republican judiciary committee of the State Legislature and of Warner T. McGuinn, recently deceased, as clerk of the Baltimore liquor board.

This era also brought into existence one of Baltimore's most powerful political bosses among colored people, Dr. William H. Weaver, custodian at the post office. Dr. Weav- for a time, dictated practically every colored appointment in the city.

It was also during this early period that Baltimore came nearer than it ever has to landing a man on the Baltimore school board.

Refused to Accept

The board at that time consisted of twenty-four members, each recommended by a member of the city council. The Rev. E. F. Eggleston, then pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, was recommended by Councilman Cargill, but for some reason refused to accept the possible confirmation.

It was around schools that politics in Maryland has always surged with most violent reactions. Exactly fifty years ago, the colored high school was established with Dr. G. L. Staley, white, as principal.

In 1889, it turned out its first graduates, seven young women and two young men. That same year the first school to use the services of colored teachers was opened on Carrollton and Riggs Avenues.

Colored Teachers in Charge

In 1896, Dr. Cargill sponsored an ordinance in the city council which had as its purpose the gradual elimination of white teachers from the colored schools. It passed, but it was not until three years later that the Rogers Avenue School in East Baltimore was turned over to colored teachers.

Henry Brown was made principal of the male department and Miss Nannie Groome, principal of the female department.

Mayor Was Democratic

In 1900, the tide of politics flowed back to Democratic control and Thomas G. Hayes defeated William T. Malster, Republican, for mayor and a reform movement, including a new city charter in which the 24-member school board was reduced to nine

It was during Mr. Hayes's term that the school board removed the Colored High School from Saratoga to Dolphin Street and Pennsylvania Avenue with an all-colored faculty and the Rev. Hugh M. Brown as principal.

It was also at this time that the Colored Polytechnic School, brought into being by an ordinance introduced by Councilman Harry S. Cummings, was consolidated with the high school.

Although the era of Republican ascendancy was terminated by the election of Hayes and brought about the end of the reign of the stalwart group of Republican leaders in local politics, their influence in politics was felt in each case until death.

They all held important Federal posts, and McGuinn, one of the "Big Five," came back later to win a seat from the Seventeenth Ward in the Fourth Councilmanic District, in the city council.

Two big political events stand out between the end of that era and more recent times.

One was the political convention held in Annapolis, in 1918. Although records of that turbulent gathering shows that it was publicised as more or less a civic affair fighting for rights of colored citizens, the actual events showed it to be a struggle between two political factions.

Leaders in Fight

Taking part in it were such leaders as: Charles W. Johnson Harry S. Cummings, J. Frank Wheaton, Dr. J. A. H. Johnson, W. Q. Sanques, the Rev. J. C. Allen and the Rev. Timothy Rice.

Another event which stands out in political history of the city and State, was the revolt staged by a group of Republicans against the Weller organization in the early twenties.

In this revolt for the first time a group of Republicans ran an independent candidate for election to the State Senate. He was defeated, but the incident started a new spirit in local politics.

Following this the Fourth Councilmanic District sent three men, Warner T. McGuinn, William L. Fitzgerald, and Walter S. Emerson to the city council.

The effort of whites to enact jim crow legislation in the early period of this fifty-year period also gave political and civic leaders opportunity to show united activity. One of the outstanding occasions of this kind was an organized anti-jim crow Sunday in which leading pastors of the city took part.

Among the pastors who turned their pulpits into a battle line from which to hurl a broadside at the proposed measure before the State Legislature were:

The Revs. John Hurst, of Waters A.M.E.; W. M. Alexander, of Sharon Baptist; Reuben Armstrong, Madison Street Presbyterian; E. T. Eggleston, Grace Presbyterian; A. L. Gaines, Bethel A.M.E.; George F. Bragg, St. James Protestant Episcopal; I. L. Thomas, Sharp Street M.E.; S. S. Wormley, Faith Baptist, and Garnett R. Waller, Trinity Baptist.

Democratic Politics

When the mantle of Sonny Mahon fell upon Boss Frank Kelly there was just emerging Baltimore's most effectivt Democratic boss, Thomas R. Smith.

For nearly a quarter of a century Tom Smith, as every one knows him, has been the undisputed political leader in the Fourth Congressional District of Baltimore and the man who governed political matters of the colored group throughout the city.

Republican.

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation

G. O. P. COULD HAVE WON

THE DEMOCRATS won the local election on Tuesday by only a few thousand votes. It was a victory none the less. But it was a victory which could have been prevented had the leaders of the Republican Party listened to the advice of their friends rather than to that of politicians whose sole objective is to perpetuate themselves in office

The Tribune believes in the principles of the Republican Party. In editorials and news stories it has pointed out glaring defects in the management of the Party and advised that certain definite things be done if the G. O. P. was to regain its former power.

The Republicans were advised to nominate a colored candidate for judge. Three lawyers were suggested: Raymond Alexander, G. Edward Dickerson and Herbert E. Millen. Hobson Reynolds was suggested as a candidate for Magistrate on the Republican Ticket. Neither of these suggestions was acceptable to the ward leaders who would prefer to see a great party die rather than yield one inch from their personal ambitions.

The Democrats nominated Joseph H. Rainey. The Democrats won the election. A careful check shows that many thousand colored Republicans voted for Rainey and the whole Democratic ticket. Instead of a colored candidate hurting the ticket, he apparently won the election for the Democrats.

The Democrats carried almost every ward where there is a heavy colored vote. On the other hand, Rainey ran almost neck and neck with his Democrats in wards with dominant white populations. All of which disproves the idea that white people will not vote for colored candidates.

A powerful colored candidate for judge on the Republican ticke would have brought almost as much strength to the Republicans as did Judge Theodore Rosen. This is a fact which the returns prove.

Colored people must be considered by the Republicans if they are expected to serve. Even though they believe in the principles of the G.O.P. they must receive a fair share of consideration for their loyalty. Their economic situation is such that colored people, like all other groups, must have the consideration which gives them the opportunity to enjoy a more abundant life.

Tribune 11-4-37
Philadelphia, Pa.

Negro G. O. P. Leaders Attend Chicago Confab

CHICAGO.— (ANP)— Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman of Mississippi, and Mrs. Mary C. Booze, National committeewoman of the same state, were in Chicago Friday, attending the meeting of the National Committee called by Chairman John D. M. Hamilton. The National committeewoman's husband, Eugene P. Booze, accompanied her to Chicago. The G.O.P. leaders stopped at the Palmer House where the National Committee was in session.

Previously, at a meeting of the Cook County Republican committee, Oscar DePriest of Chicago, former G. O. P. representative from the first district, and a candidate for that office next year, addressed the local party chieftains and urged adoption of the resolution opposing the holding of the off-term convention. DePriest's action, it was said voiced the opinion of George F. Harding, Illinois committeeman and Republican boss of Chicago's Southside.

Declared Mr. DePriest, "The Republican party is in no position now to hold a premature national convention nor to adopt a program which would be likely to fit any political situation which may develop before the 1938 election which still is a whole year off."

11-13-37
The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

PERRY HOWARD ANSWERS

PERRY W. HOWARD, only Negro member left on the Republican National Committee and representing the State of Mississippi, is in a fighting mood. And when Perry gets mad and departs from his usual calm, it's news.

It seems that Governor Aiken of Vermont, in recent utterances concerning the future of the Republican Party nationally made some remarks which rubbed Mr. Howard the wrong way. All of which causes the good Mississippian to rush pell mell into print with a tirade against the Governor of Vermont and those Republicans who are responsible for driving the Negro out of the party.

Says Mr. Howard:

"Any statement or implication that southern national committeemen are more corrupt than those of other sections is wilfully and deliberately false, and the statement of Governor Aiken is nothing more nor less than the continuation of the efforts of the old Hoover and klan crowd to eliminate every colored man of any influence in the Republican Party.

"I lay down the proposition that while the methods of patronage of the south are different to those in any other section, they are and have been just as clean as those elsewhere. For instance, what is the difference in operating a Tammany Hall on a small scale in Vermont and taking a contribution for the party from a Postmaster in Mississippi, or having a campaign fund in Texas made up of those who enjoy the fruits of office? The only difference seems to be that those in the south come under senatorial investigation, and those in other sections are passed up.

"Governor Aiken knows nothing about the south, unless he has at one time been a carpet-bagger in the section—the most baneful influence there is there. . . The backbone of the Republican Party in the South is the Negro, and if the Governor and his kind had not aroused and then deserted and left dis-

Age 12-18-37
New York, N.Y.

franchised the Negro in Reconstruction Days the vote would not be so small there, like it is in Vermont. Does the Governor know that by reason of his cold-blooded indifference there are six hundred thousand disfranchised Negroes in Mississippi?

"In conclusion, may I say to the Governor that coalescence and lily-whiteism will not return the Republican Party to power. It can only return by going back to bed-rock principles."

We're glad to see Mr. Howard aroused and in a mood to fight. Now if he'll only stay mad enough to tell the national committee something at its next meeting, then Governor Aiken's remarks will not have been in vain. We believe Mr. Howard hit the nail on the head when he said about going back to bed-rock principles as the only salvation of the Republican Party. As our only remaining national committeeman, it is up to Mr. Howard to help chart the course of the Party toward that end. Go to it Perry!

Machinery Is Set In Motion For Development Of Working Unit In State G. O. P. Battle

Seek 5,000 Active Colored Workers In Fifteen Counties; 150,000 State Contacts Sought

Setting in motion a machinery designed to gather the largest working unit of Negroes ever mobilized by State political organization, the Republican State Negro Council's Executive Board announced its plans to launch a membership drive for 5,000 active workers in fifteen Counties, here.

With the actual work of the drive scheduled to begin, officially, on January 1st and end February 12th,, the Council has already laid the foundations for its State-wide offensive.

According to Executive Board Chairman Joseph V. Baker, the first day of the drive will find more than 200 seasoned workers on three main committees already at work.

E. Washington Rhodes, publisher of the TRIBUNE, will serve as General State Chairman of the membership drive, with County Commissioner August Niemeyer, of Delaware County, in the post of Associate General Chairman.

Niemeyer and his committee will be directly in charge of soliciting white members who will be given the title of "associate members" in the various local Councils. For each white membership secured the Executive Board said that a free membership would be given some "willing but unemployed Negro worker who is not able to pay the joining fee."

The Board added that the Associate Committee would seek ot underwrite ,500 such memberships in the fifteen articipating Counties.

The State body estimates a general ontact with upward of 150,000 of the uarter million Negro voters in the tate before the spring primaries.

In Philadelphia, W. C. Wingate, barer supply company head, who is temporary chairman of the Philadelphia Council, said that the quota already ct for his County is 2,000 memberhips.

Aided by a temporary Executive Committee which includes Mrs. Daisy B. Berry, Dr. Clarence Smith, Prince L. Edwoods, Dr. T. W. Georges, Magisrate Edward W. Henry, E. Washington Rhodes and Royal S. Weaver, the emporary setup will seek to over-subcribe its quota, the local chairman aid.

In addition to these, Chairman Winate said that the membership committee for Philadelphia would be augmented to seventy-five persons distributed in the various sections and wards under leaders. Both women and men will be solicited in all of the local drives.

Political-1937
Party Affiliation.

Republican.

THE PREMIER NEGRO POLITICIAN

By KELLY MILLER

Age
2-20-37
New York, N.Y.

In a recent release I casually compared the political status o Perry Howard to that of Haile Selassie. This comparison was not original, it was derived from the New York Times. The aptness of it seemed so apparent that I could not forbear applying. Mr. Howard takes umbrage at the comparison stating that it tends to belittle his constituency and minimie the pedestal on which he stands. I do not think it should be necessary for me to assure my esteemed and much admired friend that no such intention lay in my mind. The reference was only casual. What I had in mind was to point out in as few words as possible the rapid decline of the southern Negro and the rise of his northern brother to local and federal political power.

Perry Howard is the only surviving Negro politician who holds his own under changed conditions in the South. Immediately after the overthrow of reconstruction the Republican Party turned over to Negro leadership the machinery of political organization in the various southern states. About 1890 a new species appeared upon the political horizon known as "lily-white" which did more to crush the political rights of the Negro than the bourbon southern Democrats. The few white Republicans scattered among the southern states were, up to that time, disposed to share leadership with their Negro co-partisans. But as soon as the lily-white bee began to buzz in their bonnets they eliminated the Negro or crushed out his ambition for leadership.

In such states as North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky and West Virginia and Missouri there was a sufficient body of whites with normal Republican leaning to assume leadership with little or no complication or friction, but in the deep South it was otherwise.

The story is an interesting one. The head of Cuney of Teas fell in the lily-white basket. Lee of Florida, Cohen of Louisiana and Lyons and Ben Davis of Georgia were likewise decapitated. President Hoover applied the guillotine to the neck of Perry Howard of Mississippi, but it bounded back and left his tough political neck intact. The spectacle of the President of the United States using the prestige, perogative, power and patronage of his office to crush a defenseless Negro politician is without parrallel in cur political history. In truth and in deed, Perry Howard is the last of the Mohicans.

In a letter to me he points out that in the midst of insuperable difficulties he maintains a political organization in every county in the state, with the total voting constituents of over 7000 notwithstanding the disfranchising laws and the persistent opposition of the lily-whites.

Perry W. Howard and Arthur W. Mitchell are the only Negroes who are on the ground floor in federal politics. One controls the political organization of a state and the other that of a Congressional district. Perry Howard hopes to sit on the lid in Mississippi until the Grand Old Party restores the right of franchise to every citizen according to the intendment of the 14th and 15th amendments. I fear he will not be able to hold his breath for a sufficient duration of time.

Mr. Howard is a National Committeeman and is a trustee of the Republican Party and stands on the ground floor of party management. It is a great advantage to the colored race to have a representative in that capacity especially when and if the G.OP ever regains the seat it once held and for which it still hopes and sighs.

I remember that I wrote to President Roosevelt, more than three decades ago, who had just discredited Hon. Justin W. Lyons, that the act would serve to put the Negro effectively out of national politics. At that time Mr. Lyons was the only member of the National Committee. Since then a representative from Georgia has been added and eliminated. Perry Howard alone survives.

Howard will probably be the last Negro to represent the race on the National Committee or either party during the present generation. Long may he live and prosper to represent his race in such high connections as he has done in the past twelve years, with dignity courage and tact. Here's to you Perry our permier Negro politician. I trust you will be saved the ultimate fate of Haile Selassie at the hands of "lily-white" Mussolini.

MIDWEST G.O.P. CONFERENCE TO WICHITA

Call

Republicans of Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Missouri Meet October 22

10-1-37
Kansas City, Mo.

WICHITA, Kas. — Negro Republicans from throughout Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Missouri will assemble at the Masonic hall, 615 North Main street, here Friday and Saturday, October 22 and 23.

Republican leaders from the four states plan to set up a body which will safeguard the rights of the Negro in the Midwest. B. F. Johnson, president of the Kansas Grass Rooters, who is serving as chairman of the convention, says he believes this is the "appropriate time to make their plans and teach a working agreement to avoid the customary confusion that arises, to consolidate their efforts and make known the desires of the Negro voting public."

Mr. Johnson said that among the speakers will be P. G. Porter of Atchison, Avis Martin, Pittsburg, vice-state chairman of Kansas; Roscoe Dungee of Oklahoma City, L. H. Lightner of Denver, W H. Towers of Kansas City, Kas. Fred C. Helm of Wichita, Elisha Scott and William Bradshaw of Topeka.

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For further information write B. F. Johnson, chairman Grass Rooters, 535 North Main street Wichita.

HETTY GREEN SAID NO TO SON'S CANDIDACY

Colonel 'Scared' of Her, Says Negro Politician, So Texas Republicans Gave Up

Times [illegible] Dallas, Tex.

DALLAS, Texas, Oct. 13 (AP).—Colonel E. H. R. Green, son of Hetty Green, had fear only of his mother, and that caused him to decline a Texas Gubernatorial nomination thirty-one years ago.

So testified William !Gooseneck Bill) McDonald, Negro banker, politician and once Colonel Green's "political secretary," at a hearing here today before a master of chancery in a four-State fight over the right to taxes from Mr. Green's $44,000,000 estate.

McDonald's testimony recalled a Republican State convention at Houston in 1906.

"The Black and Tan faction of the Republican party nominated Colonel Green as the party's candidate for Governor. He wired us right away, though, that he couldn't accept because his mother refused to let him accept any political nominations," the witness testified.

"If there was anybody on earth that Colonel Green was scared of, it was his mother, Hetty Green."

McDonald told of the many times Colonel Green came to the financial aid of the Republican party in Texas and told of a trip he, the witness, made to New York in 1920 to get campaign funds from Colonel Green.

"He gave me $25,000 on that trip—in cash," McDonald said. "I stuffed it in my jeans and carried it right on back down here to Texas. They were big old bills—thousands-dollar ones."

McDonald testified that Colonel Green "handled all the Texas patronage during the McKinley Administration, and when McKinley was killed and Roosevelt took charge, he didn't interfere with Green's patronage."

McDonald also said Colonel Green told him a Senatorial nomination in New York had been offered to him if he would establish his legal residence there.

F. B. McKay, formerly general freight and passenger agent of Colonel Green's Texas-Midland Railroad, testified that Green specifically instructed him to state in reports to the Interstate Commerce Commission that Colonel Green's legal residence was Terrell, Texas.

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t resisted Emancipation, and since its Rebellion was subdued, it has resisted all efforts of the G.O.P. to elevate the freedman. Tribune

If the Negro South wishes to be New Deal, we leave him to the cowardice of despair, but we will keep the North as we found it—a free world of free air and a free ballot. 10-28-37

A Negro who votes any Democratic ticket in Philadelphia cuts his own hroat. That may be his right. He also cuts the throat of his children. Philadelphia Pa.

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10-28-37

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Philadelphia Pa.

THAT IS NOT HIS RIGHT!

No "Switch" Of Negro Vote, G.O.P. Contributor Claims

(Contributed)

Mouthings and chatter are heard about political allegiance.

Men who feel important,—parasitic trustees of sick times,—dwell on what they call the "switch" of the Negro from the Republican Party to the organized banditry known as the Democratic Party.

It is, in the thought of windbags and industrious hustlers, as if men could change their faith over night, or wipe out the story of experience with a quick run of the hand.

Despite the vanity and rage of hirelings, suffering an attack of mental indigestion,—there is no "switch" of the Negro vote. Character is not dead in this people. Slimy propaganda racketeers would have it so, but it is not so.

10-28-37

The Negro has not deserted the Republican Party. He has not embraced the Democratic Party, which tortures him where it rules by force and plays upon his misery in the free North, where he enjoys the ballot secured to him by the Republican Party.

Philadelphia, Pa

Talk is in the air that the Negro is striking "bargains" with the free man's ballot.

Philadelphia Tribune

If this were true, he had played into the brutal hands of his traducers; he had begun his death march. A bought and sold people are dead hands in a society of free men.

History speaks in this matter. The ties that bind the G. O. P. and the American Negro are stout and were fashioned in the shock of war. They are not to be loosed in a woman's pout or the rage of foolish men.

Now and then the Negro moves against leaders and candidates of his party. He moves, not to destroy his party or strengthen the party of the torch, the rope and the Klan, but to purge his political communion of men false to its principles.

Mr. Roosevelt hurries to Cardinal Mundelein to swear over blessed meat that Kluxer Black is not anti-Catholic, but a thousand feasts as gorgeous as Belshazzar's could never convince colored Americans that the Klan is not anti-Negro.

Mr. Roosevelt may soon hurry to sup with Israel and lip apology over an untainted loaf of the Covenant, but the Klan and its Party forbid him to break bread with even the greatest of his colored millions.

Sweet are the words of a President, but the spirit of his faith directs his path.

Men of keen thought, of sharp practice, surround Mr. Roosevelt, who is not only Squire of Hyde Park but also a Georgia planter. He is intimate with the ways of the Klavern and no stranger to the signals of the Klan.

If you are Democrat you are Klan; if you are Roosevelt you are Kluxer Black, and whosoever among the world of color is Ku Klux is either a knave at heart or a slave in soul.

Learning is dangerous in a dull heart. If the Negro can be divorced from the Party through which he has life he will be where Democrats wish to see him, OUT ON THE LIMB, at the mercy of the wintry winds of machination, unprotected by Party thought or responsibility.

If such could be, he would suffer more in the free North than in the South, where the party of Rebellion has made him slave again!

South the Democratic Party is barbarian; North it is hypocrite. If we sustain it in Philadelphia we justify it in Birmingham. A vote against the Republican Party in Philadelphia is a voice upholding Tillman in South Carolina and Josephus Daniels in North Carolina, who made dust of the rights of colored people.

Mr. Roosevelt is New Deal and the New Deal is Democrat. Selection of Kluxer Black by the New Deal and confirmation of him by Democrats is public notice to the Negro at the North that he can be New Deal only on terms laid down by the Democratic South.

Maybe he wants that; if so, his days as a free man are numbered. Poets have sung the misery of his breed through the ages.

The Negro created the Republican Party. When Lincoln appeared Wendell Phillips, foremost speaker of the English tongue, put it so: "The slave has elected a President."

Men may mouth their personal views but the origins of the Republican Party remain as first stated. So with the origins of the Democratic Party.

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FLAYS AIKEN FOR SLUR ON POLITICIANS

Defender

National Committeeman Issues Statement Defending South

12-18-37

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—Charging Governor Aiken's open letter of December 6, to the Republican national committee, asking for a "purging of the baneful influence of southern committeemen" was a revival of an ancient attempt to proscribe Race voters still in the Republican party, R. R. Church, Republican state committee member from Memphis, Monday night in Washington made public an open letter he mailed to Governor Aiken.

Chicago

Church, who has been a delegate to Republicans national conventions for more than 25 years, revealed he has been approached by hundreds of his friends for an opinion as to what the Vermont governor had in mind.

"In response to many requests," Church said, "I decided to address an open letter to Governor Aiken for the purpose of clarifying the situation."

Makes Election Suggestion

Church pointed out that the quickest way to solve the problem was by the passage of federal legislation giving the government control of all elections for federal offices. He asked Governor Aiken's cooperation to that end.

The letter follows:

"Your open letter to the Republican national committee has come to my attention through the medium of the New York Times of December 6, 1937.

"I presume your letter was written in an effort to help the Republican party. The fact is a portion of your letter has revived an old question in the minds of Negroes.

"The part to which I refer, your first demand, is an exact replica of the pretext the racially intolerant have used from time to time to further proscribe the Negro; and colored American citizens are again asking the question: Are Negroes about to be still further proscribed by the Republican party? To clarify the situation, I address this open letter to you.

Answers First Demand

"Your first demand, viz., 'that at the eariest opportunity the national committee be purged of the baneful influence of the southern committeemen who represent no one except themselves and their allied officeholders, past and present—mostly past,' is subject to the unfair and untrue implication that the unfortunate, disfranchised colored American citizen of the South is in some way responsible for the condition of which you complain, and, therefore, the little he has left, representation in the Republican national convention, should be taken from him.

"There is nothing new about such a demand. It has been made regularly, ever since President Grant removed the United States army from the states of which you complain. The last forceful effort to reduce the colored American citizens' representation in the Republican national convention was made at the December meeting of the Republican national committee in Washington, D. C., prior to the national convention which nominated President Coolidge in Cleveland, O., in June, 1924. The spearhead of this attempt was the late Senator Robert B. Howell, of Nebraska, heading a sub-committee of the Republican national committee. Senator Howell was apparently without the real facts. When all the facts were laid before the entire Republican national committee, Senator Howell and his subcommittee were unanimously repudiated.

Says Race Dissatisfied

"The Negro's discontent with his treatment at the hands of some of the leaders of the Republican party has grown steadily for a generation. With each attack upon his status in party councils, and the apparent indifference and ignorance of most of the leaders of the party toward his problems, the loyalty and devotion of the Negro to the Republican party has gradually diminished.

"The Negro's discontent was climaxed by the 'lily-white' program of President Hoover, in which he was aided and abetted by his Postmaster General, Honorable Walter F. Brown. It resulted in a great exodus of colored citizens from the ranks of the Republican party. Among the more prominent who left the party was Hon. Arthur W. Mitchell, who had gone all over the country advocating the election of Mr. Hoover. Humiliated and chagrined by the 'lily-white' program of President Hoover, he left the Republican party in disgust. He was welcomed by the Democratic party, later was given the nomination for Congress from the First District of Illinois, and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1932. Thus he became the first colored Democratic congressman in the history of the United States, and he has succeeded himself ever since. He ranks high in Democratic party councils and his advice is eagerly sought by the Democratic high command. Along with millions of white Americans, more Negroes left the party in 1932, and still more left in 1938. Today, there are more Negro Democrats than ever before in the history of the country. More Negro Democrats hold office, national, state and local, in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government, than it was possible to imagine only a few years ago.

"Under our form of government, every citizens is entitled to cast a vote, irrespective of his race, creed or color. It is the business of the Republican national committee to get as many votes for its candidates as it honorably can. Wherever votes are honestly counted, the vote of a colored American counts as much as the vote of a white American. The candidate who polls the most votes is the one who wins; and only by electing its candidates can the Republican party return to power. These facts are elementary. Yet so many Republican leaders seem to be unmindful of them.

Task of Committee

"The most important task of the Republican national committee, whosoever constitutes it, is to stop the exodus of the colored voter from the ranks of the Republican party. Your demand, if complied with, would drive the remaining colored Republicans from the ranks of the party, and make it even less potent than it is now. The politically informed know it is impossible to carry the states essential for Republican victory without the Negro vote. It is common knowledge that sentiment in those states among colored voters will be directly and adversely affected by any proposal which has for its purpose the further proscription of the Negro.

"While I do not for a moment condone all the methods of some of the southern party representatives, or the conduct of others at convention time—I vehemently condemn poltical racketeering by whomsoever it is perpetrated—your condemnation is weeping, **all inclusive. According to you, all southern representation is bad. And this is not the fact.**

"I am a citizens of the State of Tennessee. According to geographical classification, it is a southern state. The member of the Republican national committee from Tennessee, Hon. J. Will Taylor, is likewise a member of Congress, representing the Second Congressional district. Since the inauguration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Congressman Taylor, without party patronage as an asset, and without any other asset except the undying loyalty of Tennessee Republicans, has continued to succeed himself, despite the sweeping inroads of the Democratic party. Congressman B. Carroll Reese, representing the First Tennessee Congressional district, has done likewise. This has not been duplicated in many formerly rock-ribbed Republican strongholds. Under the leadership of Mr. Taylor, Tennessee rolled up a Republican vote for Landon of 146,000, while you, in Vermont, polled a Republican vote of only 81,000. Unlike your State of Vermont, were it not for the colored vote in Tennessee, the 146,000 Republican votes would not have been polled, nor would there be two Republicans in Congress from the state of Tennessee. Do you call this a baneful influence? Do you regard Congressman Taylor as one of the Republican party's greatest liabilities?

Kentucky's Record Cited

"Another southern state, Kentucky, cast 369,000 votes for Landon, as against Vermont's 81,000. In addition, Kentucky elected a Republican congressman, the Hon. John M. Robinson, from the Ninth district. Do you call this a baneful influence? Do you regard Kentucky's national committeeman, Hon. John M. Perkins, as one of the Republican party's greatest liabilities?

"Several other southern states cast more votes for Landon than did Vermont. They are: North Carolina, 223,000; Texas, 103,000 and Virginia, 98,000. West Virginia cast 325,000 and Oklahoma cast 245,000. Do you call these baneful influences?

"You say the southern committeemen represent "no one except themselves and their allied officeholders, past and present—mostly past.' While it is possible you may not have so intended it, many of the readers of your letter have drawn the inference that, since colored American citizens in Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Florida are deprived of their right to vote by intimidation and vicious election laws, you have joined with those who contend those same disfranchised citizens are not entitled to representation according to their number in the Republican National convention. Is that what you mean? If you do not mean that, what have you done to assist in rectifying that condition? If representation in a Republican national convention can be denied to those who through no fault of their own are deprived of their right to vote in those states, what about representation in Rpublican national conventions of those whose votes are not counted in northern states? Would you decrease their representation in the Republican national convention too? What is the difference between unjustly depriving a citizen of his right to vote and stealing his vote?

Fails to Criticize Self

"I notice Senator Ernest W. Gibson, of your state, approves your pronouncement. Although he is a Republican member of the greatest lawmaking body in the world, what has Senator Gibson done to rectify this condition in the South? The late and distinguished Senator Henry Cabot Lodge pointed the way.

"Not a word of condemnation appears in your letter concerning the past practices of any northern committee members. Do you condone everything they have done? You say, "Nourished on political patronage alone and used as a tool for controlling the party, this body of committeemen is your organization's greatest liability." Are there degrees of liability in your appraisal of things? If so, who is the greatest liability—the man who can be used as a tool or the man who uses him as a tool? Which of the two would you retain in party councils? '

"You say, "The character of their (southern committeemen's) representation is such as to preclude any possibility of securing the cooperation of the millions of patriotic fellow-citizens south of the Potomac and the Ohio." I wonder if you are familiar with the iniquitous and vicious election laws enacted by those loyal patriots south of the Potomac and the Ohio, which have resulted in the disfranchisement of more than seven million equally as loyal and patriotic citizens, the effect of which constitutes an influence far more baneful than that exercised by the few southern committeemen whom you condemn. Do you approve of such practices?

"At every national convention since the days of reconstruction, contesting delegations of 'lily-white' composition have consistently argued that, if the leadership of the Republican party in the southern states were placed in their hands, they could build a strong, virile party, and carry many of the southern states. But at no time in **the history of the Republican party has the party machinery been in the hands of the Negro, except in three instances, Texas, Georgia and Mississippi. At no time, except in 1928, have ony of the southern states, with the exception of Tennessee and Kentucky, ever gone for the Republican ticket. Then it was for a reason just as reprehensible as racial intolerance, viz., religious intolerance, and not because of any love for the Republican party or for the principles for which it was created.**

Straight Thinking Needed

"It is time Republicans got their thinking straight on the possibility of carrying the South by gaining the support of Southern Democrats. I am as anxious as anyone else to see conditions rectified about which there can be just complaint. But the way to do this lies not in decreasing southern representation in the Republican national convention, but in making it possible for every citizen of the United States, without regard to his race, creed or color, to exercise his constitutional right to cast his ballot. This can be accomplished in a constitutional manner by the enactment of a federal election law, supervised by the federal government, for the election of Presidential electors, Senators and Congressmen. Thus could be wiped out the disfranchisement of seven million colored citizens in the states about which you seem to be so concerned. Not only you, but anyone else who lends his enegery, ability and influence to a program for the early passage of such an act, would be making a constructive contribution toward eliminating one of the most sordid chapters in American political life, and, when successful, would carve a niche for himself in the hall of American immortals. Surely, you must admit that any citizen who is willing to protect and defend his country even at the cost of his own life, as American Negroes have in every American war, is entitled to share in the political determinations of the country and a free and unhampered use of the ballot.

"If your program, as it appears to do according to your statement appearing in the Washington, D. C., newspapers, contemplates the further disfranchisement and proscription of the Negro in the South, you should state your position frankly and without veiled words, so that the American Negro will be put on notice and be able to govern himself accordingly if your suggestion is adopted by the Republican party."

Political - 1937
Party Affiliation.

Republican.

Arlington, Virginia—Chronicle
November 12, 1937

COLORED VOTERS RETURNING TO REPUBLICAN PARTY

IN PENNSYLVANIA the colored population numbers about six hundred thousand. About three hundred thousand live in Philadelphia. President Roosevelt is the only nominee of the democratic party who ever got that vote. It was Roosevelt personality and promises that brought the colored voters to him, brought about a migration from the republican party to the Roosevelt dominated democratic party. President Roosevelt selected a governor and United States Senator for the people of Pennsylvania and delivered to both the colored vote. All the colored editors, and leaders in politics were taken care of in the distribution of offices in Philadelphia and other Pennyslvania cities, and hundreds were brought to Washington and given good positions. One Van, editor of a colored newspaper in Pittsburg, was made an Assistant Attorney General of the United States, but spent little time in Washington, being most of the time at his newspaper office in Pittsburg. He was provided with elaborate offices at the Department of Justice, with two white stenographers, and the privilege of using any of the 42 white stenographers in the division in which his offices were located. When inquiry was made there as to what was his occupation it was said: "He examines land titles." He never did and never could examine a land title. When inquiry was made as to where he was the reply was: "He is travelling." When colored leaders in Philadelphia and in New York City became jealous of his power, he defied them and in a speech said: "I have a fifty thousand dollar home, and plenty of money, and I don't care what you do." He gave up his high salaried office of assistant Attorney General of the United States because, he said, he did not want to bother with it, and he is now dispensing New Deal patronage in Philadelphia. The recent elections in Pennsylvania showed that the colored voters were coming back to the republican party. This was particularly shown in Philadelphia. The colored people have two special grievances against the administration. One is the failure to put through congress the federal anti-lynching bill. President Roosevelt in 1933 promised delegations of the National Association for the protection of Colored people his active support of the bill. He made the same promise to delegations from the colored National Urban League, and to innumerable representatives from other colored organizations. Up to date, he has done nothing and the bill is where it was when he came into office in 1933. The bill was pronounced constitutional by Attorney General Cummings, by the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, and of the House. It is a bill dear to the heart of every colored person in the United States, and the President could have had it enacted into law if he had wanted to in 1933. Another thing that has impressed the colored people was the appointment of a member of the Ku Klux Klan to the Supreme Court. They know that President Roosevelt had knowledge that Senator Black was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, and that he had this knowledge for three days before Black was confirmed. They also know that the former law partner of Klansman Black is an Assistant Attorney General of the United States. Black was a Klansman for four years before he was made a life member of the Klan. There is now an exodus of the colored voters from the New Deal back to the republican party, according to what a prominent New Deal colored official told the writer.

The Political Digest, a Philadelphia Daily Newspaper published in the interests of colored Americans, publishes a speech by Roscoe Conklin Simmons, colored, delivered at the Metropolitan Opera House in Philadelphia, on Sunday, October 31. It is on the front page and entitled **"Blasts Democratic Hypocricy."** Here are some of the things that the famous colored orator said to an audience of colored voters whose cheers shook the great auditorium, packed as never before:

"JOHN B. KELLY, DEMOCRATIC CHIEF, CANNOT PUT HIS ARMS AROUND MY NECK IN PHILADELPHIA AND A ROPE AROUND MY NECK IN ALABAMA."

John B. Kelly is Farley's right hand and New Deal political boss of Philadelphia.

Again the orator brought his audience to their feet with these words:

"We may not be able to take away the rope in Alabama, but we will take Kelly's arms from around our neck in Philadelphia. Kelly cannot run with the hare in Philadelphia and chase with the hounds in Alabama.

"Kelly's Party wants the Negro vote in Philadelphia. In Alabama Kelly's Party denies the Negro the right to vote. In Philadelphia Kelly's Party calls the Negro 'BROTHER.' In the South it calls him 'NIGGER' and asks, 'What about it?'

"The Republican Party gave the Negro the Ballot. The Democratic Party took it away.

"IT WAS TAKEN AWAY IN NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA, IN GEORGIA, IN VIRGINIA, IN ALABAMA, IN MISSISSIPPI. It was taken from him ONLY IN DEMOCRATIC STATES.

"IN TEXAS NO NEGRO MAY JOIN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

"NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST, THE G.O.P. IS THE SAME, RECEIVING ALL, REJECTING NONE."

Speaking of President Roosevelt, this famous colored orator said:

"If the Jim Crow car is wrong, F. D. Roosevelt has not said so. If the chain-gang in Georgia, HIS STATE, is wrong, he has not said so. If disfranchisement of the Negro is wrong, F. D. ROOSEVELT has not said so.

"EVERY REPUBLICAN EVERYWHERE SAYS THESE THINGS ARE WRONG.

"Whom does John B. Kelly's Party in Alabama now propose to send to the U. S. Senate to succeed Kluxer Black? It proposes to send back J. Thomas Heflin.

"How can a Negro vote the Democratic Party and then weep over the Scottsboro boys?

We publish the foregoing as evidence of the fact that the colored vote is going back to the republican party. The Political Digest goes into every colored person's home in Philadelphia, and Roscoe Conklin Simmons was cheered by an audience of colored people that filled one of the largest auditoriums the world.

Political - 1937
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WAR ON DISFRANCHISEMENT
SHOULD BE ON PROGRAM OF
REFORMED REPUBLICANS

Press Service of the N.A.A.C.P.

12-10-37 New York, N.Y.

N.A.A.C.P. Tells Governor Aiken All Southern G.O.P. Leaders Are Not Corrupt and Mere Purge of Party Will Not Correct Evils

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New York, Dec. 10.- A demand that Republican party leaders attack the problem of reorganizing the party "by launching a campaign to and disfranchisement of qualified voters wherever the franchise is now denied in the many parts of the United States" was made this week in a letter to Governor George D. Aiken of Vermont by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The association's letter, signed by Walter White, secretary, was occasioned by Governor Aiken's statement of December 6 demanding reorganization of the Republican party by having it "purged of the baneful influence of the southern committeemen who represent no one except themselves and their allied officeholders."

Stating that many thoughtful Negroes and whites agreed with Governor Aiken in his move for reorganization of the G.O.P., the Association pointed out, however, that all southern Republicans are not venal and corrupt and that many honest and sincere Negroes in the southern states have loyally supported the Republican party because they resent "disfranchisement, lynching, injustice and insult which they have encountered in the southern wing of the Democratic party."

Secretary White's letter states:

"The implications, however, of your further hope 'of securing the cooperation of the millions of patriotic fellow-citizens south of the Potomac and the Ohio' leads inevitably, in the absence of denial on your part, to acquiescence in the notorious and long-continued violation of the federal constitution in the disfranchisement of millions of qualified Negro and white voters in the South.

"It is obvious that there can be neither temporary nor lasting solution of the evils of which you complain until every guarantee of the 14th and 15th amendments is assured to every citizen regardless of race, creed or color, in Mississippi as well as Vermont."

Camp Followers, Not Generals

Call

12-17-37

Kansas City, Mo.

A strong opposition being the best guarantee of the efficiency of the party in power, the breakdown of the Republican party becomes a concern of the whole American people. For that reason the two new England governors' condemnation of the "baneful influence of southern national committeemen" as one of the sources of the G. O. P.'s weakness has too much of fact behind it to be ignored.

Southern committeemen have been powerful in Republican councils, but worthless in lining up the vote. In this age when the cry is for "young" men because youth is a doer, it is strange how the southern Republican leader, a veritable painted ship on a painted ocean, hangs on. It must be that he is kept for his value as a pawn in the nomination game.

But the price is dear. A Mississippian speaking for himself, deceives nobody. No votes are expected of him. But letting him have standing, with men from northern and border states given less consideration, is a blunder. He, because he is elevated without constituents whose votes count, and without any voters at home to require service of him, naturally works for his own interests.

The Republican party, by the importance it has given southern committeemen, who drain its commissary but are no addition to its fighting forces, has cut the communication between it and many who would be its supporters. Even if the committeemen were constructive, the petty devices by which they get their play-actor posts discredit them. It is hard to believe in their sincerity. The two New Englanders have certainly hit the nail on the head when they point out the southern committeemen as one weakness that has helped the G. O. P. lose its standing.

Political-1937
Suffrage
6

Alabama

Citizen Won't Vote Because of Poll Tax

3-26-37

Post
B'ham, Ala.

Editor, The Post:

There is another election coming up soon—that for the Birmingham City Commission. I have been a resident of this city for six years and would like to have a voice in naming the officials who are to run the municipal government. But I shall have no such voice.

The reason is this: I refuse to pay a poll tax. Call it stubbornness or stinginess if you will but I know that it is neither of these. I simply cannot find it within my principles as an American to have to pay for the privilege of casting a ballot.

I do not mind bearing my share of taxes. I do not object even to the new sales tax. I realize that public functions need financing.

But I do feel the gig of governmental oppression when I am required to pay up in order to cast a ballot. Voting to me is one of the inalienable rights of the American citizen.

Many persons of intelligence and high position have been crying out against the cumulative phrase of Alabama's poll tax. I will not stop there. I wish to raise my voice against any form of poll tax. Only 10 states cling to this unjust form of taxation. Thirty-eight others give the voting privilege free—as it should be given. I came from one of those states. Now I have adopted this one and have learned to love it. But, much as I would like to take part in the political developments of my community and state, I refuse absolutely to do so as long as I am required to pay, like some lodge member his dues.

H. M. G.

FOR POLL TAX REFORM

News
4-29-37
Tuskegee, Ala.

The Alabama Congress of Parents and Teachers adopted a resolution at its meeting in Birmingham last week urging its members to work for a constitutional amendment repealing the poll tax requirement for voting in this state.

For years there has been agitation in favor of such an amendment, but very little headway has been made. Thousands and thousands of good citizens are disfranchised, all because of a law written decades ago and intended to prevent former slaves from voting.

In the last 45 years the population of Alabama has increased about 70 per cent, but the voting population has increased less than 2 per cent. We do not have genuine political democracy in Alabama today.

There are only 10 states in the Union today that levy a poll tax, and all but one of these are in the South.

At the very least, the back-tax payments required of dilenquents desiring to vote should be greatly reduced.—Age-Herald.

Can You Vote?

Post
3-31
B'ham, Ala.

Official figures will not be available until later in the week, but it is estimated that 22,000 votes will be cast in today's City Commission election.

If the above figure is correct, it means that nearly 15,000 citizens who are qualified to vote will not go to the polls. It emphasizes again the viciousness of Alabama's cumulative poll tax law which robs tens of thousands of Alabamians of one of the most important rights of citizenship.

The last gubernatorial campaign recognized the state's antiquated poll tax law as an issue. Relief was promised but it never came.

Perhaps our next governor and next Legislature will be more effective.

Birmingham Citizens Grow More Vote Conscious

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)—That the colored citizens of Birmingham are increasing their desire to become political minded was made evident recently by the increased attendance and interest in political meetings. The Jefferson County Negro Democratic Club had one of its most inspirational meetings on Wednesday night at the Elks' Rest, meeting place of the organization.

Pres. D. L. White introduced a visitor from Ohio who brought an insight on the political situation in that part of the country. Prof. William Moore also spoke briefly on the subject of the Negro in Politics.

Mrs. S. H. Crowder and two others were named to the committee on statistics to aid in urging registration for new voters and reviving interest in those who have lost their ballot. Mr. Crowder resides in Ensley and is a well known fraternal leader. He was for a long time connected with the Masonic order.

The Democratic Club will make an effort to swell the list of eligible voters during the ninety-day period that opens in October.

Birmingham, Ala. News
September 16, 1937

OHIO NEGRO SPEAKS

Ruby Parker, Negro member of the Ohio State Republican Committee, of Toledo, made an address at the Jefferson County Negro Democratic Club meeting yesterday at The Elks Rest, Eight Avenue and Twelfth Street.

D. L. White, club president, announced the group is concentrating its efforts in an attempt to contact every Negro man and woman who has not paid poll tax, and urge them to do so as to be able to vote in the coming state election.

He said the date for the Negro state rally will be announced within 10 days.

Dothan, Ala. Eagle
October 8, 1937

NEGROES REFUSED BY REGISTRARS

Members of the County Board of Registrars refused to qualify nine Negroes today when they appeared at the Courthouse seeking to be entered on records as qualified voters.

In refusing to register the Negroes, John J. Crary, board member, said he would have to investigate to see whether Negroes could be franchised or whether they were barred from voting by the "grandfather clause" once in use in the State.

The delegation of Negroes was headed by Marion Hawks, undertaker, who has twice made application for a right to vote. Others were three insurance men, a farmer, a minister, a dentist, a presser and a grocer.

ALABAMA VOTERS

It is now time for every loyal citizen of Alabama to pay his poll tax and be ready to vote in 1938. Far too few persons in this State are qualified to vote.

Statistics show that only about 20.4 per cent of the Alabamians of voting age are now in a position to vote. The Talladega Daily Home explains:

> One often wonders if anywhere near the full voting strength of the State voted in elections would there be any different results. It is certain that at times elections go contrary to indications and what one hears as "street talk," showing that it is quite likely many who talk cannot vote. This thought is suggested by "Facts From the Records" sent out from Montgomery which shows that only about 20.4 per cent of all the State's population of voting age, including negroes, and only about 30 per cent of the whites vote. In other Southern States, Arkansas voted 18.5 per cent; Florida 37.8; Tennessee, 33.5; South Carolina, 14.1; Georgia, 19.6; Mississippi, 16.2; Texas, 26.2, and Virginia, 25.7. All of these states have large negro populations, make payment of poll tax prerequisite to vote. In states where no such requirement exists there is a different story. In last year's election West Virginia voted 90 per cent; Kentucky, 45, and North Carolina, 54, according to the same source of information.

A United States Senator, a Governor Congressmen and dozens of other officials will be elected next year. Be ready to vote!

Talladega, Ala., Daily Home
October 16, 1937

WHO VOTES?

One often wonders if anywhere near the full voting strength of the state voted in elections would there be any different results. It is certain that at times elections go contrary to indications and what one hears as "street talk," showing that it is quite likely many who talk cannot vote This thought is suggested by "Facts From the Records" sent out from Montgomery which shows that only about 20.4 per cent of all the state's population of voting age, including negroes, and only about 30 per cent of the whites, vote. In other Southern states, Arkansas voted 18.5 per cent; Florida, 37.8; Tennessee, 33.5; South Carolina, 14.1; Georgia, 19.6; Mississippi, 16.2; Texas, 26.2, and Virginia, 25.7. All of these states have large negro populations, make pyment of poll tax prerequisite to vote. In states where no such requirement exists there is a different story. In last year's election West Virginia voted 90 per cent; Kentucky, 45, and North Carolina 54, according to the same source of information.

VOTE BAN IS FOUGHT IN BIRMINGHAM

Call

Crowds March to Court House, Chanting a Special Song

12-17-37

BIRMINGHAM.—(CNA)—A mass "right-to-vote" challenge to the disfranchisement laws of the South appeared here this week, as thousands of Negroes and poor white workers marched on the Jefferson county court house where registration is soaring to historic heights.

Hundreds of Negro workers swarmed into the registration offices singing a specially written song "Gonna Register."

More than a dozen southern states have laws which disfranchise Negroes.

Oppose Tom Heflin

Foremost in the minds of the workers and progressives of this jim-crow state is the determination to defeat "Cotton Tom" Heflin, rabid hater of Negroes and labor, who is running for the senate on a reactionary anti-New Deal platform.

Lister Hill, New Deal candidate, is opposing Heflin. The contested Senatorial seat made vacant by Justice Hugo Black's elevation to the Supreme Court, is now occupied by "Dixie" Graves, who made her debut speech in the Senate with an attack on the anti-lynching bill.

As Negroes march into the Jefferson county court house—where two of the Scottsboro boys, Haywood Patterson and Clarence Norris are now imprisoned—they hum "Gonna Register," which reels off to the tune of the "Organ Grinders Swing."

Have Campaign Song

Expressing the promise of better days which the exercise of the vote carries with it, the song goes:

"Negroes voting with the whites
Will put across the Bill of Rights,
Jim Crow voting now is dead,
Gonna have Democracy instead,
Gonna Register."

Taking the lead in the fight to defeat Heflin are the C. I. O. unions, large blocs of A. F. L. members, liberals and progressives, Negro and white.

"The "right to vote" campaign which began here Nov. 18, is taking place on the southern background of reaction in which more than a dozen states south of the Mason-Dixon line deny Negroes the right to vote. Among these states are: Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Florida, Texas, Louisiana.

In all of these states there are educational, property and poll tax requirements—all of which serve to bar poor white sharecroppers as well as Negroes.

Political - 1937
Suffrage

D.C.

The Truth vs. Suffrage For the District

Washington Tribune
D.C.
7-17-37

The District suffage cat is out of the bag. At last one newspaper has had the nerve to let her out. The Washington Herald, a daily paper, published an editorial, this week, daring to give the reason why the franchise for Washington citizens has not been pushed by city leaders.

As is generally known, there has been a whispering campaign against voting power for the District on the grounds that there are too many colored citizens, who may get control of municipal affairs.

Negroes themselves have used the strategy of keeping quiet on the question for fear their vocal support would hamper the movement for suffrage before it got a good start.

Arguing that there is no likelihood of Negroes voting in a block and thereby controlling the city's affairs. the Herald editorial will probably go a long way toward subduing the fears of prejudiced whites who have been satisfied to forego their part in running the affairs of the city so that their darker brethren would not get a chance to speak for their interests.

Now that the ball has been started to rolling where all can see, there is no further reason for Negroes to hold back their support in the fight for the ballot.

The editorial follows:

A Baseless Objection To D. C. Suffrage

(Washington Herald, July 16, 1937)

For years it has been the habit to whisper that Washington cannot have self-government because of the "Negro vote."

According to this thesis, bloc voting by colored people would gi[illegible] control of every aspect of municipal affairs in the National Capital.

Washington Tribune
D.C.
7-17-37

To deny that such an opinion exists among a majority of persons in Congress and the city at large is to dodge reality.

For their benefit, therefore, the following summary of mathematical facts concerning the District's population is presented:

The U. S. Census of 1930 showed a population of 386,869 persons in the District of Columbia. Of these, 27.1 per cent were found to be Negroes.

The 1930 census also showed there were 253,431 whites of voting age, and 88,38[illegible] Negroes. The ratio of white to Negro voters was roughly 2.8 to 1.

The Census Bureau found only 15,105 persons in Washington maintaining absentee voting rights in the States. Allowing all of these to have been white, the ratio of white to colored voters as a whole is substantially unchanged.

Now everybody knows the population of Washington has increased sensationally since 1930, so there are now about 620,000 persons here, and it is generally felt the number will be one million by 1947. Likewise, anybody of ordinary intelligence can see the vast majority of the newcomers are white persons.

Since 1930, there have been efforts of the political parties to tap the mine of absentee votes here and the Democratic National Committee makes affidavit to extracting 36,[illegible]72 in 1936 by way of its official absentee ballot bureau. The Republicans didn't keep a record, but, for generosity's sake, add 20,000 more absentee votes by Republicans and by Democrats who went home or used direct mail.

7-17-37

Even so, 58,000 is a small percentage in a city of 620,000 persons and so the ratio between white and colored voters remains unchanged.

As to party affiliation. it is well known among politicians that the Democrats successfully shattered the traditional bloc Republican vote of Negroes, last year, on the issue of the New Deal.

Leaders of the Negro community here say that the party schism is as pronounced in Washington as anywhere else.

Therefore, while this newspaper is no less opposed to discrimination against any people on the basis of race, creed or color, it has no fears of abnormal racial bloc voting in a Washington city election by means of which an organized minority could ride roughshod over the majority.

What is needed here is simply recognition of the truth.

And the truth is that Washington must have the vote.

Political - 1937
Suffrage.
6

Florida

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
June 16, 1937

NEGROES ENROLL FOR VOTING ON CIVIL SERVICE

The office of City Finance Director Glen V, Leland yesterday reported an "unusual increase" in the number of negroes registering to cast their votes in the coming city civil service referendums.

Officials said the negroes appeared not singly but "in batches of four and five at a time" to sign the registration books. A total of 13 were said to have registered from District No. 6 since yesterday, and four from District No. 1.

There were 15,186 white persons and 308 negroes registered as qualified electors in St. Petersburg for the last general election.

City hall officials said they "understood" the negroes had been brought to Leland's office for registration by a negro driver said to be acting for another negro often mentioned in connection with bolita operations here.

Assistant City Attorney Harry Young said the sudden influx of negro voters had not been officially brought to his attention, but added the unusual number of such registrants during the day "was very noticeable." He condemned what he termed the apparent attempt to use the negro vote as "a dangerous practice," and said he foresaw serious conquences if such practice should gain headway.

"Future city councilmen running in District No. 6 might be forced into campaigning for the negro vote." he said.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
June 20, 1937

ON THE REGISTRATION OF NEGRO VOTERS

Editor, The Times:

I have noticed in your valuable paper certain statements to the effect that there is an organized effort being made by some influences to register and vote the colored citizens of the city in a "bloc," in the coming city-wide referendum on the civil service question. This assertion may be true. I do not know. But I do know that the day is long since gone when anybody could vote colored people as a unit for anybody or anything, unless they felt that in uniting their forces they could create better living conditions for their entire race group.

The recent city council election is a case in point. To my personal knowledge the colored voters of the city distributed their votes among the entire list of candidates. There was no "bloc" voting.

Then, too, I might suggest that this so-called "mass registration" by colored voters may be the flowering of an aroused civic consciousness among local colored people. They have found that they need to register and vote, in self defense. For here in a community with approximately nine thousand colored people we do not find any of the benefits provided for them that white citizens enjoy. No bathing beach, no city-owned public park, no recreational facilities of any kind. The hospital provided for nine thousand colored people can barely accommodate thirty patients, with no private or maternity wards. There is not even a public rest room in the entire city for colored people. Do you not think it is time that they woke up and took an interest in their own plight?

As I stated, this registration of colored voters may be sponsored by somebody with an ax to grind, but I have my doubts. I am more inclined to believe that the more thoughtful of our people have simply aroused themselves to the point where they feel that they should take some interest in the issues that face this community and in the men who are selected to govern it.

REV. R. A. CROMWELL, Pastor
First Baptist Institutional Church.

St. Petersburg Negroes Organize Non-Partisan Voters League

The St. Peteraburg Colored Voters League, headed by S. H. Mesely and organized July 3 in an open air meeting and attended by about forty interested persons, scored a marked victory on Tuesday at the polls in the city election.

The association succeeded in bringing the registration of Negroes from about 85 to over 400 within three week.

Informer

The successes along this line was due largely to volentary assistance of Mt. C. A. Williams, Real Estate holder of the city.

7-24-37

The meetings, which numbered four, within three weeks were largely attended and fired with enthuasism by such speakers as Dr. G. H. Leggett of this city and Rev. Farther Robert Jackson of West Palm Beach, Fla.

St. Petersburg, Fla.

The asssciation boast of members among some of the leading citizens of the city and is attempting to increase the Negro voting strength to 400. Mr. Anderson Williams is First Vice President and Mr. K. D. Martin, Sec'y.

FLORIDA CITIZENS DEFY KLAN, CAST BALLOTS

Parade of Klansmen Acts As Inspiration to Negroes To Go to Polls and Vote In St. Petersburg.

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

7-31-37

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., July 29.—The only effect which the parade of the Ku Klux Klan had here this week on Negroes was to make them go to the polls and vote. Furthermore, after the special election was over, many colored citizens declared they had been caught unregistered at this election and could not vote, but at the next registration day they would be sure to be on the lists.

The Klan put on its robes and marched through the Negro district the night before election to discourage Negroes from voting the next day. Some of the 200 Klansmen attempted to burn a cross on the lawn of Charles Williams, but before it could be lighted, Mr. Williams called police who took the cross and forced the men to run.

The temper of the colored people was such that any spark could have set off serious trouble. Far from being afraid of the Klan, many Negroes wanted to remove the cross from the Williams house themselves and not wait for the police. It was said also that colored people were "ready" if any trouble had been started and that only the fact that the Klan parade was a quiet one escorted by police, prevented an outbreak along the line of march.

Race To Polls In Florida

Chicago Ill.
Defender

8-7-37

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Aug. 6 — Several hundred members of the Race exercised their right to vote here last week and in doing so established a record for the number of votes cast in an election here by the Race voters and defied the pillow case and sheet wearing Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

The defiance of the K. K. K., which staged a demonstration in the Race sections of the city the night before election as a warning to Race voters who intended casting their ballot, was regarded as significant of the passing of the power of the Klan.

The election which was a city-wide referendum on civil service, was one of the most hotly contested ever witnessed here, but singularly was not marked by violence.

Race Voters Awaken

Out of the 402 members of the Race qualified to cast ballots in this city, at least two-thirds of that number visited the polls. Contrary to what was expected, the attempt to scare Race citizens from the polls is expected to have the opposite effect of a record number of Race citizens qualifying to cast ballots in the next election.

Of great interest was the reaction of whites to the audacious voters, who proudly walked and rode to the polls in the face of threats thought dire enough to keep them indoors all day.

Though they did it very unwillingly and with the barest of civility, workers at the polls (all white of course) passed out ballots, answered questions as tersely as possible and even gave instructions to members of the Race not familiar with marking ballots.

200 In Precinct

The heaviest turn out of Race voters was in Precinct 6 where almost 200 of the 264 eligible Race voters performed their civic duty. City Manager A. F. Thomasson who is believed to be opposed to use of the ballot by members of the Race accused police of using squad cars to transport Race voters to and from the polls.

Calling in Chief of Police R. H. Noel, the city manager questioned him along this line and threatened to make a thorough investigation into the activities of police.

The police were deeply interested in the outcome of the election since they are affected by any change in the civil service.

Voters Show Courage

The greatest courage was displayed by Race voters who permitted themselves to be photographed. Klansmen had promised to photograph every "N—— who voted, and to deal with him after election."

With no assurance that photographs being made were for newspaper use only, Race voters did not shy away from the cameras which flashed and clicked at every poll where they voted.

Heavy registrations on the part of Race citizens hinted that many would cast votes, but none expected them in the unprecedented numbers in which they turned out.

Since the Klan demonstration apparently spurred Race citizens to make use of the ballot, the K.K.K. march has been roundly condemned by whites as "ill-advised."

Political - 1937

Florida

Suffrage

130 NEGROES BALLOT DESPITE KLAN PARADE

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., July 20.—(AP)—Approximately 130 negroes trooped to the polls today to vote in a special city referendum despite a march of 200 Knights of the Ku Klux Klan through the negro distrist last night.

Klansmen stated their silent, ghostly parade, made in the ruddy glare of hundreds of red flares, was intended to show their disapproval of alleged efforts to obtain a heavy negro registration.

Constitution
7-21-37
Atlanta Ga.

Political - 1937

Suffrage

General

TAKE A DEFINITE STAND

THE LAWS GOVERNING elections of any kind whatsoever, throughout our nation, provide protection for voters as they go about the sacred duty of exercising their franchise. Punishment is prescribed for efforts on the part of any persons who attempt to intimidate or unduly influence voters in support of candidates for public office.

There are those selfish and brazen aspirants for teats in the form of public office who are vicious toward other people who may choose to support an opposing candidate, and many of these office seekers who barely gain enough favor to let it be known that they have been in the contest, carry their grouch over failure right along after the election and exhibit a spirit of hostility toward voters who were not inclined to support them.

East Tennessee News

Especially is such the case concerning certain of these would-be office holders toward voters of the Negro racial group. The arrogant, conceited air of certain of these individuals is that Negroes must take the ring right into their nose without flinching and allow themselves to be led off to the polls for the purpose of dropping their ballots for the fellow, even though no other race voters are supporting him. Such is the case as concerns demands of certain party affiliates, also.

11-4-37

Negro voters, like all other voters, should take a definite stand in support of candidates of their choice. Whether the race as a whole is supporting some certain candidate is not the question. If a candidate for public office is known to be fair, just, honest and efficient, work for his election and go to the polls and vote for him and don't fear to let it be known that he is the candidate of your choice. Refuse to accept money or favors for your votes and if there is any attempt, even in the minutest detail, toward intimidation, on the part of any one, call to your rescue an officer and demand arrest of the offending party in as determined a manner as you would if confronted by a hold-up artist.

This is a free country. Negroes as well as other folk are guaranteed protection under our Constitution, as they go about the duty of exercising their franchise. They should accept and demand this protection without the slightest degree of hesitation. If the name of the candidate of their choice is on the ballot, whether he is a Republican or Democrat, Communist or Socialist, if you want to mark an X by his name, mark it there and don't be afraid to let the world know that you voted for the candidate of your choice; that is, if such a candidate has the qualifications that will make a representative official.

Knoxville, Tenn.

There are those hypocritical, selfish individuals and interests that bob up at the approach of every election, with the cry of corrupt elections, as they begin pointing the finger of suspicion toward Negro wards and districts. In most instances such is done for no other purpose than to confuse Negro voters and intimidate them in an effort to scare them away from the polls on the day of election.

This type ofwarning should be heeded alright, only to the extent of refraining from violating any laws. March to the polls with the necessary papers required for exercising your franchise. Refuse to have a part in any matters that savor of irregular conduct. After you will have marked and deposited your ballot, go about your affairs. In pursuing such a course, then look any man in the face and defy him to question your integrity and conduct of good citizenship.

Valdosta, Ga., Daily Times
November 15, 1937

POLL TAX AND VOTING

The Constitution of the United States makes each state the judge of qualifications of its electorate, except that the right to vote shall not be denied on account of race color or previous condition of servitude.

The various states have different regulations for voters and formerly a majority of them made the payment of poll tax necessary to voting. However, at present, only 10 of the 48 states require the payment of poll tax. Nine of these states are in the South .They are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

In these nine Southern states only 24.1 percent of the citizens of voting age went to the polls in the 1936 presidental election.

This small percentage of actual voters is due in part to the fact that comparatively few Negroes vote in the South and the poll tax is retained no doubt with a view to discouraging them from voting.

The only Northern state which now imposes a poll tax, according to a recent publication is Rhode Island, and there a citizen may vote without paying the tax by taking the "pauper oath."

One of the oddities among state laws respecting voting is that of South Carolina, which provides that no Negro shall vote in a Democratic primary unless he can produce a statement of 10 reputable white men who will swear that the applicant voted for General Wade Hamilton for governor of the state in 1876 and has voted the Democratic ticket continuously since.

Obviously no one can comply with such a requirement, so there are no Negro voters in Democratic primaries in South Carolina.

Political - 1937

General

Suffrage
6

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
January 21, 1937

"I feel that there is a constantly increasing number of our citizens who would be glad to see suffrage extended to Southern Negroes gradually and as they become qualified for it," writes H. D. Cullen, of this city. "Along with that would go, almost necessarily, the extension of suffrage to the many thousands of white citizens who are at present not qualified voters."

* * *

Without education there is little to be hoped for and much to be lost in extending the franchise either to black men or to white in the South. That should be the qualification, not mere possession of dollars for a poll tax. It was interesting to read that before Franklin Roosevelt, Jr., who had just reached 21, was allowed to cast his first vote at Hyde Park last November he was required to show a certificate of graduation from high school and that because he had lost his he was made to take a literacy test. That is a much better system, it seems to this column, than our Southern one.

* * *

More and more the answer to Southern problems continues to be education. Education for all races and classes. Education that will produce the taste to demand, the talent to achieve and the character to keep those better things for everybody upon which the future of everybody depends in this day of ***mass and machine.***

BORAH PROPOSAL EMASCULATES FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

New York, Feb. 26.- Charles H. Houston, Special Counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, issued a statement that Negroes must fight to the end the resolution introduced into the Senate February 25 proposing the repeal of the Fourteenth Amendment. Mr. Houston stated that on first glance Senator Borah's resolution seemed fair enough. He retained what is now the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment which provides for citizenship in state and nation, and the due process and equal protection clauses. But as his resolution is reported in the press he eliminated all the clauses which put teeth and protection into the amendment.

Press Service of the N.A.A.C.P.
2-26-37 New York, N.Y.

The amendment in its present form provides in Section two that when the right to vote is denied except for participation in rebellion or other crime the representation of the offending state in Congress may be reduced in the proportion which the number of citizens who are denied the vote bears to the total number of citizens entitled to vote. This provision is not now honored and enforced, but it is only a question of a short time before the Negro in the northern and border states will be strong enough politically to demand its enforcement if the South will not listen to reason and extend the franchise to Negroes on the same basis as to other citizens.

Senator Borah has also eliminated Section four of the present Fourteenth Amendment which prohibits the United States or any State from assuming or paying any debt or claim for the emancipation of any slave or loss incurred in aid of the rebellion. If this provision were eliminated all the Southern states would at once pass laws recognizing debts of the Confederacy, and Southern Negroes would be taxed to help pay the cost of the Rebellion which attempted to perpetuate the slavery of their forefathers.

Finally Senator Borah has eliminated the last Section of the present Fourteenth Amendment which gives Congress the power to enforce the provisions of the Amendment by appropriate legislation.

The N.A.A.C.P. is preparing to follow actively all developments on the Borah resolution and to oppose it vigorously.

The Negro and His Voting Sense

Black Dispatch

7-10-37

Oklahoma City

Last year at the Baltimore convention of the N. A. A C. P., in discussing disfranchisement in the South, we said the difficulty was not incident to color or race, but to political expediency. Our Republican brethren cannot stomach any such logic or reasoning. We recall that our friend, Nutter, from Virginia, almost had a spasm when we delivered ourselves of this philosophy, and this year at Detroit, we find two more Republican brethren who refuse to believe that disfranchisement has its roots in something other than race.

Our notion is that Democrats consider they are cutting off a very definite and known wing of the G. O. P. when they disfranchise Negroes, and our ideas follow the thought that whenever it becomes certain that this former Republican quantity has become mobile and flexible, and therefore useful to the Democratic party, disfranchisement will cease.

At Detroit this year we discovered the same wild unreasoning philosophy of Republicans, as represented in the speeches made by Attorneys Chester Gillispie and Charles A. Chandler. Gillispie lives in the state of Ohio, while Chandler hails from our own state city of Muskogee.

In telling the convention of what we had accomplished in Oklahoma by voting with the dominant party we did not by any means infer that we did not still haveJim Crow, segregation and disfranchisement in Oklahoma, but we did seek to show that since 1915 when the registration law was passed to totally disfranchise Negroes, we had used a type of technique in Oklahoma which had convinced the ruling powers that Negroes could be valuable to that party.

Regardless of this position the Ohio delegate seems to feel that since Negroes had secured ballot privileges in Oklahoma, as suggested by us, that there was no justification for our position unless Oklahoma was now a perfect Utopia, without Jim Crow or separate schools. He could not see that this writer was attempting to show that we were headed in the right direction, even though we had not reached our ultimate goal in citizenship.

The ridiculousness of the Ohioan's argument was however vested in the fact that in telling of the use to which Negroes put the ballot in Cleveland, from where Attorney Gillispie hails, and in a state where there is no sign of disfranchisement, he pointed out that Negroes could get further in one community or city than in another. After telling about the many positions, elective and appointive which Negroes held in Cleveland, Attorney Gillispie exclaimed:

"In Columbus they are just the same as in Georgia."

Now there you have our reasoning coming in at the back door. The Negroes in Cleveland with the ballot use a certain type of strategy and method advancing them to worthwhile places, while in another town where they fail to have vision and do not apply horse sense to the voting system, the Negroes are "just the same as in Georgia." This experience occurs in Ohio—not Oklahoma.

Now that is the type of logic we were trying to punch through the cranium of our Cleveland friend. He admits that Negroes can use the ballot wisely or unwisely in a Republican stronghold, but he cannot assume that such a situation could exist in Democratic territory. Republicans control things down at Columbus, but our Cleveland friend admits that these Republicans create a Georgia system for Negroes. Does the condition at Columbus result from racial animosities or from other causes? In fact was not Attorney Gillispie attempting to tell the convention that Columbus Negroes use the ballot unwisely while Negroes in Cleveland use the same basic power to implement themselves into places of authority and control?

In that observation of the Ohio delegate rests the entire problem of suffrage. In almost every community the Negro vote represents a balance in power. When election day comes foolish sentimentality should be forgotten. Your ballot owes nothing to the past. Its use should effect your present and future welfare. A Negro in Ohio should in most instances vote the Republican ticket, because Republicans generally control that state. Down in Oklahoma or Texas, Democrats control. Therefore, Negroes should identify themselves with the controlling forces of that section.

The truth is, it is the Negro who must break up what is called "The Solid South." When the millions of black citizens look forward instead of backwards on election day; when they refuse to turn into pillars of salt, but instead become mobile and flexible on election morning, in that day will the adroit and skillful movement of Negro suffrage obliterate the cohesiveness of a Democratic vote in the South which congealed years ago in order to protect itself against the inflexibility of the newly infranchised slaves.

Yes, Oklahoma still has its Jim Crow, its separate schools and occasionally the mob. But even so, Negroes in Oklahoma have advanced themselves far beyond their Texas brethren who persisted too long in the belief that effective voting meant to oppose everything that those who control Texas wanted to effect.

Florence, Ala., Herald
October 2[illegible], 1937

POLL TAX AND VOTING

Only 10 of the 48 states require the payment of poll tax as a prerequisite to voting, and of these nine are in the South. They are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. In these nine Southern states only 24.1 per cent of citizens of voting age went to the polls in the presidential election of 1936.

This small percentage of actual voters is due in part to the fact that comparatively few Negroes vote in the South, and the poll tax is retained no doubt with a view to discouraging them from voting.

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The Constitution of the United States makes each state the judge of the qualifications of its own electorate, except that the right to vote shall not be denied on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

One of the oddities among state laws respecting voting is that of South Carolina, which provides that no Negro shall vote in a Democratic primary unless he can produce a statement of 10 reputable white men who will swear that the applicant voted for General Wade Hampton for governor of the state in 1876 and has voted the Democratic ticket continuously since.

Obviously no one can comply with such a requirement, so there are no Negro voters in Democratic primaries in South Carolina.

Political - 1937

Suffrage 6

Georgia. 6

PAY POLL TAX—AND VOTE!

No election held in Georgia in the last half century has had the vital bearing on the future welfare of the state as the constitutional amendments referendum and the repeal issue election set for June 8.

Constitution

If there ever was an election in Georgia in which a full and representative vote should be cast, it is this election.

5-4-37

And yet, under the rules and regulations prescribed for the voting, there is danger that thousands of voters will be disfranchised merely because they have failed to pay their 1936 poll tax.

Atlanta, Ga.

Attorney General Yeomans cites that every voter who was on the registration list for last year's election is qualified to exercise his right of franchise on June 8, provided only that his poll tax, amounting to $1, is paid for 1936. It is reported that thousands of voters have failed to pay this inconsequential sum. Unless they do so before June 1 they will be disfranchised.

This poll tax was due on December 20 last. After midnight of that date it became technically delinquent. It can be paid any time up to June 1, and the voter will then be fully qualified to vote on June 8.

Those who voted last year had paid their poll taxes through 1935, or else they could not have registered. Therefore they have no back poll taxes to pay and the cost of a ballot for the coming election is only $1, the poll tax for 1936.

The number who have not yet paid their 1936 poll tax is estimated by some authorities at 80 per cent, but this is probably an overestimate. That there is a large number, however, is certain. Many Georgians, undoubtedly through carelessness, have overlooked payment of this tax.

Fortunately, there is still ample time for payment. The deadline has been set at June 1. That will give the election authorities time to purge the 1935 lists before the actual day of the election, June 8.

Among the constitutional amendments to be voted on at this vitally important election are those which permit Georgia to participate in the social security benefits from the federal government—the old-age pensions, aid to the blind, the children, the helpless, the unemployed—which were leading issues in the state election last fall.

Also will be decided the question of repeal of the prohibition laws and the substitution therefor of a system of state control and local option.

Certainly, the man or woman who, for failure to pay a $1 poll tax, tosses away the right to vote in such an election, sacrifices the right to criticize governmental conditions to which he or she may object.

Every voter who has not already done so should pay his or her poll tax that was due last December, today, before again forgetting.

63,267 MAY VOTE IN FULTON, DEKALB

Heavy Ballot Predicted; Leaders Seek Passage of 4 Local Amendments.

List of Fulton, DeKalb Voting Places May Be Found in Page 13

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
6-8-1937

Fulton and DeKalb county voters today will cast their votes on Governor Rivers' New Deal program, will ballot on four constitutional amendments having local application, in 90 ballot boxes. Approximately 63,267 are eligible to vote. It was predicted a relatively heavy vote will be recorded.

Polls in both counties will open and close at the same time, officials said yesterday. Urban ballot boxes will receive votes from 7 a. m. until 6 p. m. central time (8 a. m. until 7 p. m. daylight saving time), and rural precincts will be open from 8 a. m. until 3 p. m. (9 a. m. until 4 p. m. daylight saving time).

Under the law the polls must open on central time, but election officials yesterday stressed the fact that daylight time is listed.

Soliciting of votes and distribution of literature near polling places will be permitted, it was said. A city ordinance banning these practices is without effect in a state election, officials stated.

Amendment No. 14 will establish a separate senatorial district for Fulton county and will eliminate rotation by Fulton with Clayton and Henry counties.

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
6-8-37

City Comptroller J. Graham West yesterday appealed for passage of amendment No. 22, which he pointed out vitally affects Atlanta. During his address, he stressed the fact that the amendment does not provide for a single cent of additional tax or other revenue, but that by putting Atlanta on a cash basis will save the municipality at least $50,000 a year by permitting refunding of $2,000,000 in bonds and allows borrowing up to 50 per cent of the estimated ad valorem tax receipts.

Mayor Hartsfield and other city leaders also have urged approval of the measure.

Wells' Appeal.

Jere A. Wells, Fulton county school superintendent, urged passage of amendment No. 21, which if approved will enable the Fulton County Board of Education to levy one and one-half mills for educational purposes instead of the one mill which it now collects for schools. Wells asserted the increase would be about $150,000 a year and is intended to offset school losses if the homestead exemption amendment is passed.

Amendment No. 13 applies solely to DeKalb county and permits the county to establish and administer districts for fire prevention, sewerage and-or water. Charles A. Matthews, DeKalb commissioner, has asked ratification of the amendment.

The Atlanta Junior Chamber of Commerce yesterday offered to provide transportation to and from polls to persons who otherwise might not be able to vote. The service may be obtained by calling Walnut 5310, extension No. 336.

In making the announcement, officials urged all employers to cooperate in obtaining a full expression on the amendments by allowing employes sufficient time to cast their ballots.

LEAGUE WILL ENCOURAGE VOTING

Citizens To Elect Commissioner Tuesday

13 IN RACE

Daily World

11-8-37

Atlanta, Ga.

The Atlanta Civic and Political League will hold an important meeting tonight concerning the Tuesday election of a Fulton County Commissioner. The meeting will take place at 8 o'clock in the Butler Street Y.M.C.A., with John Wesley Dobbs, president, presiding.

Every colored voter is expected to attend this meeting, which according to officials of the league, will create a new interest among those eligible to vote in the Tuesday election.

A county commissioner will be elected to fill the unexpired term of the late Commissioner Edwin F. Johnson. Polling places will be open in Atlanta and incorporated towns tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock and will remain open until 6 o'clock. In rural sections of the county, voting will begin at 8 o'clock in the morning and close at 3 o'clock.

11-8-37

County officials estimate that approximately 12,000 of the registered 40,000 voters will go to the polls. The race is expected to be wide open between the 13 candidates. Those in the running are:

Byron Bettis, Sr., Troy G. Chastain, Dr. C. W. Childs, Grover Clark, Edgar Craighead, R. T. Dutton, R. H. Everett, who has withdrawn his candidacy; C. O. Johnson, W. M. Mitcham, W. D. Newman, Thomas Croom Partridge, Starr Peck, Nelson T. Spratt and Leo A. Sullivan.

LEGALITY OF POLL TAX TESTED

Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Georgia's poll tax law is up in the United States Supreme Court for a decision which will determine whether or not the law is constitutional.

11-18-37

While only the Georgia poll tax law is specifically before the court on appeal of Nolen R. Breedlove, of Atlanta, Ga., similar laws of 37 other states may be affected.

Backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, Breedlove sued to force T. Earl Suttles, tax collector of Fulton County to put his name on the rolls so he could vote for the president and members of Congress.

Atlanta Ga

He charged that demand for payment of $13.50 tax, representing delinquency and penalties, deprived him of his constitutional privilege of voting.

Attorneys for the state of Georgia maintain that the question of qualifications of voters is solely one for decision by the state.

Ga. Assembly Moves on 2 Bills Tues.

The Georgia Assembly on yesterday moved two tax bills toward a vote in the house while the senate gave second readings to two bills sponsored by Governor Rivers which covered tax exemptions permitted under a constitutional amendment approved in June. The tax on beer to be increased from $2.50 to $4.50 a barrel according to

one of the Rivers-sponsored bill, was favored by the house ways and means committee, also a bill to levy a tax on theatres and theatre chains.

Chairman R.H. Freeman,Jr., of the ways and means committee, said the two bills would be reported at to-day's session.Each bill must have three readings before a vote is taken.

A bill which proposed to abolish the poll tax was voted upon unfavorably by the house committee on constitutional amendment. At every session, one or more bills to abolish poll tax are introduced, but seldom ever reach the floor, it was learned.

Daily World
11-24-37
Atlanta,Ga.

Political - 1937

Suffrage.

Massachusetts

6

VOTERS FAIL TO AGREE

Chronicle 1-30-37

Meeting to Choose Candidate for Council Ends in Disorder

Boston, Mass.

Some two hundred Negroes out of about 4,000 voters living in Ward 9, Roxbury, plus a few stragglers from other wards wrote history at 588 Massachusetts Avenue last Wednesday night—but wrote it backwards. The object of the meeting was to unify the colored vote for the coming City Council special election on March 30, but the result was the splitting of the Negro faction wider than ever.

Dr. William Worthy, head of the Massachusetts Colored Men's Democratic Club, Inc., invited prospective candidates for the late Richard Gleason's seat to meet together along with representatives from all political clubs in Ward 9, to endeavour to select one candidate for the campaign. Prospective candidates present were Atty. Roy F. Teixeira, Atty Ernest D. Cooke, Dr. R. A. Simmons and Robert Russell. The clubs represented were as follows: Mass. Colored Women's Democratic Club, 3 delegates; Bay State Colored Men's Democratic Club, 10; Mass. Colored Men's League, 8; Roxbury Young Men's League, 16; N. E. Eastern Congress Committee for Equal Opportunities, 5; Cape Verdeans Club, 4; Greater Boston Voters Association, 6; Young Colored Republican Club, 6 and Mass. Colored Men's Democratic Club, 12. Total 71.

Rainey vs. Schenck

Chairman Kenney opened the meeting and stated that Mildred Harris, sister of the late Dick Gleason and perennial candidate, had boasted that she is not worrying about the Negro vote because the colored people will fight among themselves and she will get her usual colored votes plus white ones, and win.

Within five minutes the Harris prophecy came true—the fight was on. Led by Atty. Julian D. Rainey three factions attacked the right of the Worthy organization to conduct the meeting and demanded the formation of a permanent organization to be elected from the floor. Atty John W. Schenck defended the chair and objected to Rainey speaking as he did not belong to ward 9. With Silas P. (Shag) Taylor backing up Rainey as well as the Cooke faction and Dr. Worthy and Chairman Kenney aiding Schenck, bedlam broke loose and continued for about an hour. Rainey departed but it made no difference. Even the voices of Mrs. Harriet Hall and Mrs. Maude Trotter Steward did not still the clamor, but rather increased it. Strangely, the militant Richard D. Moore-Mrs. Mary E. Moore-Atty. J. S. R. Bourne faction remained mum, and so did the Cape Verdean group.

Meeting Ends But Continues

Vain efforts were made to have the candidates declare themselves or to refer the matter to a committee of representatives but the opposition howled down the motions. Finally Atty. Schenck broke the impasse with a motion to adjourn, and the chairman so declared amid jeers and boos.

Russell Cohorts Hold Meeting

Immediately the Russell cohorts formed a citizens meeting after the meeting, the Cooke and Teixeira groups having retired to the hallway. Rev. P. A. Pitts was made chairman, Mrs. Steward, secretary, and a vote was taken on the four candidates after Russell and Dr. Simmons had addressed the meeting. The result was overwhelmingly in favor of Robert Russell who was declared "the" candidate.

Still in It

As far as the Chronicle can gather there are five colored candidates in the race and sixteen white ones with more to come. Candidates Cooke, Simmons and Teixeira characterize the so-called Citizens Committee a farce and have filed their papers. Meanwhile 3800 eligible voters are still waiting.

CUTS "COLOR" FROM BILL

Guardian

WOMAN SENATOR ACCEDES TO REQUEST OF ATTY. J. G. WOLFF TO REMOVE OFFENDING PROVISION IN REREGISTRATION BILL—LATTER LOST IN SENATE

5-8-37

Boston, Mass.

Pending before the State Legislature there has been a bill introduced by Senator Sybil M. Holmes for the registration of all voters of the State. Learning that the proposed law included the registration of the voter's color, former Assistant Corporation Councillor, James G. Wolff, called the matter to the attention of the Boston Literary and Historical Association at its meeting last Sunday. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "It was moved and seconded and unanimously passed that this organization go on record as opposing the color description on a bill filed by Miss Sybil M. Holmes, State Senator."

The following morning Mr. Wolff interviewed Miss Holmes at her office where she agreed to strike out the color provision. When the bill was reached Senator Holmes did as she had promised, and the amendment eliminating the color provision was unanimously adopted.

Political - 1937

Suffrage
6

Mississippi.

Pat Harrison Tells of Power in Ballot

Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi, in an interview at Jackson last week predicted the passage in the next congress of an anti-lynching bill. In his discussion of the subject the Mississippi senator inadvertently admits the increasing power of the black vote in many states in the Union. His remarks are so significant that we believe every Negro who is careless and never registers to vote, should read Senator Harrison's statement in its entirety. Here is what the Mississippi senator says:

Black Dispatch

9-25-37

Oklahoma Cy, Okla.

"There is no way to stop it. While it is clearly unconstitutional and a complete usurpation of the police power of the states, it is being pressed by every Negro organization outside of the South.

"It is a popular measure and next year being congressional year, candidates on Republican and Democratic tickets outside the South will proclaim their votes for it in order to win Negro support.

"Praise is due Senator Borah of Idaho for his courageous, independent and sportsmanlike opposition displayed against the measure.

"The law, if enacted, will impose heavy burdens upon innocent taxpayers in every country where heinous offenses have been committed and death imposed upon culprits without legal methods. In such cases the bondsmen of the sheriff must pay $10,000 and the taxpayers of the county $10,000 to the widow of the culprit who committed the foules offense.

"Federal judges may be transferred from other districts in other sections to try the cases. Changes of venue may be invoked for the trials.

"Every good citizen desires the observance of law. Unlawful hanging or killing cannot be rightfully defended, but the purposes of the anti-lynching bill desecrate the constitutional rights of American citizens. It is wholly at variance with the high conception of the constitution.

"If the federal government can assume the police powers of the state in the instance of a lynching, then it can do so in the case of burglary, robbery and every other character of crime.

"I shall oppose, as I have in the past, this anti-lynching proposal, but I am not fooled and when the vote is taken in the senate, only a few senators outside the solid South will vote against it."

Those who properly interpret the meaning of the foregoing statement cannot but realize that Senator Harrison proclaims the fact that the voting Negro of America will force the passage of the anti-lynching bill. Do you vote? When this bill is passed, how much credit can you claim in connection therewith?

Political - 1937
Suffrage

Missouri.

Jim-Crow Mayor Ousted

Call 4-16-37

Kansas City Mo.

MANHATTAN. — Negro voters played an important part in ousting Harold Westgate, Manhattan's jim-crow mayor in the April 6 election.

Westgate, an acknowledged sponsor of segregation, even at circuses, was defeated by the Rev. J. David Arnold.

NEGROES SHOULD USE BALLOT INTELLIGENTLY SAYS PRES. FLORENCE

Argus

6-25-37

St. Louis Mo.

At the graduation exercises of the Washington Vocational School, the address was delivered by President Charles W. Florence of Lincoln University.

Taking as the subject of his address, "The Economic Outlook for the Negro," the speaker first congratulated the people of the community for insisting that such a school be established in St. Louis for this special type of education for the Negroes of the city. He asserted that it represents the continued effort to secure equality of educational opportunity for the Negroes of the city and state. Such schools will assist the Negro, he said, in entering more fully into the economic and industrial life of the state. He pointed out that twenty-three per cent of the male population of the state who are gainfully employed are engaged in trade and business, in manufacturing and mechanical industries, and in agriculture. "The Negro must enter these fields."

President Florence stated further, "You students are to be congratulated also for taking advantage of the oportunities offered by this school. While the primary purpose of this school is to enable you to make a living, I am sure it places proper emphasis on the importance of making a life as well as living."

"However, it is becoming increasingly diffcult for the Negro to earn a respectable living because of certain difficulties which he encounters. Among these are (c) unfavorable attitude of labor unions, (d) a keener competition which introduces science and efficiency in all types of jobs and refuses to recognize any job as a Negro job."

Argus 6-25-37 St. Louis Mo.

"The Washington School should have helped you to know yourself. Only by knowing your own resources—physical, mental, moral and otherwise—will you be able to make the most of yourself."

Possible Solution Of Difficulti

"I hope you have surveyed all possible solutions of the difficulties facing Negroes in the economic world. Leading thinkers on the subject would sum them up in some such manner as this:

"The Negroes should be encouraged to build up varied business enterprises by collective capital and otherwise in order that they can employ other Negroes.

"Negroes should use their power as consumers. They should patronize those businesses which employ Negroes.

"Negroes must be organized as laborers. Where it is not possible for them to affiliate with other laborers, they must organize separately.

"Negroes must become more competent and must make an effort and hold the jobs now open to them.

"Negroes must use the ballot intelligently in order to gain wider advantage in jobs which are financed by city, county state or federal funds.

"An example of rank discrimination against Negro citizens of Missouri is to be found in the state highway system of construction and maintenance. A sum variously estimated at from ten to fifteen million dollars will be spent in the next few months It would be difficult to find a Negro employed on the state highways anywhere in the state If there are such persons, the speaker and the public in general would be glad to know of them."

"With your special training goes the responsibility of finding your way into industry, and of proving yourself "a workman who need not be ashamed." "Thus you will make it easier for others who must follow you in an effort to find social and economic security in this complex civilization."

REGISTER MONDAY OR TUESDAY

Argus

12-3-37

St. Louis Mo.

The new State law requires that all citizens must register in order to qualify, according to the Permanent Registration plan. After doing so, no future registrations will be necessary, unless in case of changed address. The registration days in St. Louis will be next Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 6, 7. The polls will be open at the usual election places in each precinct. Everyone should register during that time. All who fail to do so, will have to go to the Election Commissioner's office to get their names on the book. There will be no precinct registration places in the future. Register Monday or Tuesday.

New York.

Political - 1937

Suffrage

THE PRIMARY ELECTION

Age

9-25-37

New York City N.Y.

NOW, THAT THE primary election in Harlem is a thing of the past, the hopes of some shattered and the dreams of others realized, many of the voters will drop back into that blissful state of slumber from which, unfortunately, they emerge only once in a great while to exercise their rights of franchise.

The Mayoralty campaign has now gone down in history with Harlem voters doing their share to nominate Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia on the Republican ticket. In the Democratic contest, a divided Democratic party split its vote about evenly between Senator Royal H. Copeland and the successful nominee, Judge Jeremiah T. Mahoney.

Locally, there were upsets, not unforseen, and shattered hopes. Down in lower Harlem where Victor Williams, Negro, aspired for the leadership of the Democratic organization headed by William Solomon, the first real effort for Negro leadership of the district went down to defeat—but not an inglorious one. A start has been made and if the fight is continued, two years from now the hope may become a reality.

The result of the 19th Assembly District Democratic leadership contest was just what we predicted what with so much division of the Negro vote. The probability is that Harry C. Perry will again be elected leader of the district when the county committee of the district is called together. Final returns gave Perry 18 districts; Capehart, 9; Dickens, 5; Telesford, 1 and Steele, 1. While the Negro aspirants probably could elect one of their number to the leadership by a close margin, yet the likelihood of their doing so appears very slim. Two years ago, The New York Age called the various contesting Negro candidates into conference and outlined a plan which all agreed was the only way a Negro could be elected to the leadership. They promised to act on that plan but failed to do so and as a result Perry was elected leader.

This year, the situation is just as complicated, if not more so, than obtained two years ago. The same plan outlined by The Age then can bring about the election of a Negro, but are the various candidates big enough and unselfish enough to get together behind one man? Several have promised to do this, but we have our doubts. We should like to be agreeably surprised by them but have little hope.

Assemblyman Robert W. Justice who was opposed for the nomination was successful in his fight and thus meets Ira Kemp, Republican candidate, who has promised to give him the fight of his life for the Assembly berth.

In the 21st Assembly District, Herbert L. Bruce, New York's first Negro Tammany leader, was successful in his fight against a combination of Alderman Eustace V. Dench, Mrs. Elizabeth Ross-Haynes, co-leader of the district, and a white man, Edward Curran. It was a particularly vicious campaign which was waged in this district with mudslinging and muck-raking of the worst sort being brought into play. Withal, Bruce came through with flying colors, as did his Assembly candidate, Assemblyman William T. Andrews.

Also in the 21st District, the four-year fight against the Republican leader of the eastern half, Charles W. B. Mitchell, ended in victory for the forces of former Alderman Conrad A. Johnson by a margin of some 5 or more votes. A revitalized Republican machine is the promise made by the successful leaders of the revolt against Mitchell. Also successful was Mrs. Sarah Pelham Speaks who, running under the auspices of the Square Deal Republican Club, won the Assembly nomination from Edward A. Watts, organization choice.

And lest we forget, Negroes played an important part in an election in Brooklyn's 17th Assembly District where through their vote they defeated for the Democratic nomination Assemblyman George W. Stewart, candidate of Stephen J. Carney and Minnie Abel, leaders of the district who were charged with slighting Negroes.

Led by Bertram L. Baker, executive chairman of the United Action Democratic Organization, the Negro voters repudiated the leaders of the district and let it be known that they must be reckoned with politically. The leaders were charged by Baker with breaking campaign promises and then saying "well, what are you going to do about it?" The first chance to do something about it came by getting behind Fred Moritt, independent candidate for the Assembly nomination, and giving him enough votes in the primaries to win the nomination.

We congratulate the Negro voters of the 17th A. D. in Brooklyn for uniting solidly under one banner to show their political strength. The vote is one thing which makes all men equal and the sooner the Negro learns to properly take advantage of and use his elective franchise the better off will he and the rest of the race be.

Now that the primaries are over, we hope that Negroes everywhere in the city will flock to the polls and register in October (the week of the 4th) for the general election in November. The vote is a power which all respect.

Bruce Victorious in Primary Fight

Afro-American

9-25-37

Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK (ANP)—After the smoke of the New York primary battle cleared away a quick glance shows that two incumbents in the Nineteenth and Twenty-first districs are more firmly entrenched than ever before.

In the Twenty-first district, Herbert Bruce won by a large margin over Alderman Eustace Dench. In the Nineteenth district, however, five colored candidates fought so bitterly the vote was split up so that the incumbent, Harry C. Perry, white, swooped back into office.

Father Divine Angels Stage Riot At Polls

Defender Chicago, Ill.

10-16-37

NEW YORK, Oct. 15 — Members of Father Divine's "kingdom" staged a free-for-all riot, Wednesday night at 8 o'clock, at the polling place, located at 2040 Fifth avenue, when they were refused by the board of elections to register under their heavenly names, in a decision handed down by the appellate division by Justice Collins.

The decision stated that the "angels" would be allowed to register, using their heavenly names, but that they must sign their right names, or the names which they had before they joined the Father Divine peace mission.

Led by John [illegible], a disciple of the cult, over 2,000 members filed petitions to vote under their heavenly names.

During the riot, six were arrested and taken before Magistrate Klapp, in the fifth district. They were given 10-day suspended sentences. Those arrested were: Mary Joy, 24, Mary Bee, 27, and Victor Light, 30, of 25 West 126th street; Ada Brighton, 26, and Anna Lovejoy, 22, of 35 West 126th street. They were arrested by Patrolman Armstrong of the 28th division, after 10 cars, led by Lieut. Samuel Battle had responded to the riot call.

Order was restored but balloting was not continued until 10 p. m.

RACE VOTERS SLUMP IN HARLEM

350,000 Residents Cast But 75,000 Votes In Race

DISAPPOINTING

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World 11-18-37

NEW YORK—(By Charles T. Magill for ANP)—Behind the figures of the recent city election can be found one of the reasons for the Negro's impotence in local politics.

All the world knows of Harlem. It has been estimated that within Harlem's confines there are some 300,000 Negroes. The vast majority of these people live in the 19th and 21st Assembly Districts, sprinkling over into the 13th, (mainly foreigners) 11th and 22nd Assembly Districts, with a few in the 15th (old San Juan Hill section) Assembly District.

Since the bulk of these supposed 300,000 however, come from the 19th and 21st Districts, we will use the election tables of votes as given out by the board of elections for those two districts for analysis.

In the 21st which runs from 136th street up to the "hill" section of Harlem where the whites predominate, 24,618 votes were cast for the mayoralty candidates, 8,078 for the democratic candidate, Jerimiah T. Mahoney, and 17,540 for the republican, F. H. LaGuardia. The former was also endorsed by the Trades Union and Anti-Communist parties while the latter had the endorsement in addition of the American-Labor, Fusion and Progressive parties.

Since some allowance must be given for the white vote in that district, a generous estimate that 20,000 Negroes voted for mayor in the 21st Assembly District is a very fair one.

In the 19th District, where it has often been said that 95 per cent of the entire vote is Negro, the figures show that 20,227 votes were cast for the two mayoralty candidates, 6,807 for the democratic and 13,420 for the republican. On that basis, a fair estimate would be that 19,000 Negroes voted there. Taking in the other districts mentioned and throwing in all of the Bronx, we will be lucky to find another 11,000 voting Negroes.

Thus it will be seen that out of the 300,000 to 350,000 Negroes in the Bronx and Manhattan Boroughs of Greater New York, a generous estimate of 50,000 voting would seem to be all that can be mustered. Yet, out of this vast Negro population there is a potential voting strength of 200,000 if they could only be prevailed upon to register and then exercise their unrestricted right to vote as they wish.

Brooklyn Tells Same Story

Another 100,000 Negroes is estimated to be living in the borough of Brooklyn. Let's look over there and see what the figures show. In the 17th Assembly District there, the largest Negro district we find the vote for the democratic mayoralty candidate was 7,677 and that for the republican [illegible]. The vote for Oliver [illegible] Williams, Negro attorney who ran for the Assembly in that district, endorsed by the American-Labor and Fusion party was only 3,881. Not all of these votes came from Colored voters, but it is assumed that mainly they did.

11-10-37 Atlanta, Ga.

In this district live a number of the better class Negroes, and, among them one finds strangely, a real apathy for exercising their franchise. It is estimated that in the 17th district 25,000 potential Negro voters live, yet the entire voting strength of all parties has never exceeded 5,000. Two white men, running against Williams, received 8,708 and 6,946. The democratic candidate, who was backed by certain elements of Negroes in the district was the victor, though some Negro support went also to the unsuccessful republican candidate.

Taking the heavily populated 17th Assembly District as a criterion, it is safe to assume that less than 25,000 Negroes voted in Brooklyn. Now, taking in the estimated Negro population of Greater New York as 450,000 it is safe to say that not more than 75,000, (and very likely less) Negroes voted in the last mayoralty election.

Here is the text for a never-ending sermon for Negro leaders, ministers and editors in the great city of New York. Of what value is the free use of the ballot if the Negro will not use it where he can? And why harp on the disfranchisements as practiced on the Negro in the South when the Negro in the North cares little or nothing for that enfranchisement?

Whether any Negroes were successful in the proportional representation, the new style of voting for the new city council is not yet known. Outstanding among these candidates was the Rev. John H. Johnson, Episcopal rector of St. Martin's church in Harlem. Yet, in spite of the obvious qualification of this man who has demonstrated his worth as a citizen and as a Negro, he failed to have the backing of New York's leading Negro weekly newspaper.

Little was said about Negro delegates being elected to the forthcoming important constitutional convention of New York State. Among those who were successful, all coming from Harlem where Major Chauncey M. Hooper, Francis E. Rivers, T. B. Dyett and R. L. Baltimore.

Daily World

Political - 1937
Suffrage

North Carolina.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
April 27, 1937

In Black and White

Apparently an old tragedy is being threatened again in Raleigh with the rush to put crowds of Negroes on the registration books in advance of the run-off election for Commissioner of Public Works. *The News and Observer* does not know who is responsible for this registration, but it does know that whoever it is, they are not interested in the welfare of Raleigh or the white or the Negro people of Raleigh. There is no question of "white supremacy" here. The question is whether such Negroes as can be registered in bulk should put the balance of power between the normal division of the city's voters into the hands of those who are registering them. Regardless of race, this scrambling registration of Negroes seems to be an effort to carry the election not by the intelligent choice even of the Negroes of Raleigh, but by ignorance and venality, which in this case happens to be black. But the worst ignorance and certainly the most vicious venality in this case is not Negro. The Negroes involved in this matter are not following the best leadership of their race. All too apparently they are being pulled and paid by white men who will resort to any means to secure their ends.

The News and Observer certainly has no desire to bring the old cry of "nigger" into present city politics. Indeed, it does not feel that any such cry could be justified. What exists in this case needs the contempt of the community regardless of race. Here is the effort of the worst men of both races to exploit poverty to control government. In the South—in Raleigh—the poverty and the ignorance which goes with it, happens to be largely black, but the exploitation of poor Negroes in an effort to exploit the whole city is largely white. And between the poor, herded Negroes and those who herd them *The News and Observer* prefers the ignorant Negroes. They are infinitely to be preferred to the malicious white men who would use poor, poor Negroes or any other things or persons—who would resort to the most desperate devices—to pervert democracy to the ends they seek.

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Suffrage

North Carolina

Winston-Salem, N. C. Journal
July 1, 1937

Charges Wake Went Wet By Aid of Negro Vote

To the Editor of The Journal:

Wake county went wet—how? By rushing in a heavy Negro vote in the city of Raleigh. We disfranchised the Negro in 1900 and he amounted to very little in politics so long as he persisted in voting with the Republicans and against corrupt machine politicians, but when the Negro consented to be used by crooked machine politicians to certain corrupt ends, he was registered and voted. Such doings make me wonder whether I did right or not when I voted for the disfranchisement.

Well, I am proud of the Fuquay Springs community; we cast only 43 wet votes against 378 dry votes; one of these votes was an absentee vote and the voter failed to sign the ticket and it was not counted, but this would just give us 90 per cent. dry vote in this precinct. If there is any precinct in the state that has cast a bigger per cent dry than that I want to hear from it. I want to send my congratulations, and if I ever change my place of residence from the glorious good old community of Fuquay Springs, N. C., I want to lodge in that one better place if it exists on earth.

As soon as the Wake county liquor stores are opened, I will become a liquor dealer for the first time in my life and this in spite of the best efforts I could put up; but there will be associated with me the preachers and the best class of men and women in the state as well as the most common; we are just agents of a foreign liquor trade as planned and provided by the last legislature—thank you gentlemen(?).

—Wm. H. BLANCHARD.
Fuquay Springs, N. C.
June 30. 1937.

Political-1937

Suffrage.

Ohio

Breaks All Precedents In Giving Recognition To Race Vote Support

For the first time in the history of Cuyahoga County a new high was struck by Sheriff Martin L. O'Donnell in recognition of Colored support at the polls, when he appointed seven Colored deputies to his staff immediately after taking office. Those appointed are: George S[illegible], Blaine Ave., Lloyd Brown, 362[illegible] Central, Mrs. Watkin Davis, 10524 Garfield, Walter Brown, 2453 East 55th, Owen Taylor, 2687 E. 51st, Thomas Jaggers of E. 89th, and Peter Boult, 2263 East 98th St., the first colored appraiser.

Although all the vacancies which are to occur in the Sheriff's office are not yet available to be filled by new incumbents, the new executive did not fail to show appreciation. At the time he took office there were only two Colored deputies employed by his predecessors. At no time in the history of the County has there been more than three Negro deputies.

The fairness of Mr. O'Donnell is further exemplified by the fact that he only promised that he would give satisfactory recognition to the group, specifying no certain number. In the appointment of seven Negro deputies the new sheriff has stamped himself as one of the few aspirants to public office who kept his word to the Negro voter in every possible respect.

Norman S. Minor, assistant county prosecutor, who managed Mr. O'Donnell's campaign stated: "It was a pleasure to have worked for a man with the magnificence of character possessed by Mr. O'Donnell. He understands the meaning of a promise. Colored people will do well to tie their political destinies to such a man".

This fair consideration extended by Mr. O'Donnell bids fair to make him the outstanding political figure in the Negro district. It is being rumored that a nucleus is to be formed about Sheriff O'Donnell to be known as "The Good Neighbor League" whose policies will be not only political, but primarily to assist distressed people of the Colored Wards in their economic life.

Sheriff O'Donnell has also made it plain that he will not show any discrimination with references to color in housing prisoners—seperation of prisoners will be based wholly on their criminal records, otherwise all persons will be treated alike. The policy of the system will not vary one inch, says the sheriff, and all deputies will preform the same duties. In other words, at no time will certain deputies be required to do a certain thing that another deputy will not have to do.

Mr. Minor is to be given a great deal of credit for his assistance in helping to secure for the race so much patronage.

Cleveland, O.

Negro Vote Important As Cleveland Nears Mayorlty Election

Journal and Guide

CLEVELAND, O.—(ANP)—Heretofore, Mayoral elections in Cleveland have been generally taken as a regular routine political procedure in which the primaries or the general election was held with no unusual easiness or figurative preparation. This year's mayorality contest promises to be one of historic importance and significance, definitely deciding whether or not the November trend of voting was real, permanent, or just individually influenced by President Roosevelt.

Both parties realize that the Negro voter will weigh the trends of every prospective or actual candidate. They also realize that the surprising Negro Democratic vote of last year was due largely to recent Democratic recognition and patronage.

Group Vote Is Big Factor In Akron, Ohio

Daily World

(By E. S. BROWN For ANP)

AKRON, Ohio.—With the local mayoralty political pot beginning to boil, the greatest worry of both major parties is the Negro vote—especially that of Negro Democrats.

The total registration at present shows 7,700 colored voters—about 6,000 Democrats, 1,700 Republicans. About 5,700 of the Democrats belong to the Tire Town Democratic organization, which, headed by L. H. Forman, Luther Johnson, and M. Peary, refuses to accept money from any political group or candidate, demands a fair share of patronage for its members. This organization is a source of worry to both parties.

During the August Primaries, Tire Town put up its own candidate for councilman-at-large—James Russell, and with no support but the colored Democrats, he polled 5,860 votes, the largest ever given a Negro candidate for that office. Russell received no support from the white Democrats' organization nor the Labor Non Partisan Union Party, which nominated Judge Patterson for mayor.

9-6-37

The Republican candidate, Mayor Schroy, running for reelection, is said to be trying to coax this large Negro Democratic vote back to the G.O.P. fold. It is also rumored that in accordance with this plan another colored policeman will soon be appointed. However there seems little chance of these 6,000 Negroes' going back to face the same undesirable conditions that caused them to leave.

Daily World

As to the Laborites, the only Labor Union Council candidate defeated in the primary was in the Third Ward, where the vote is largely Negro. These are all contributing causes to the present worry of the major party leaders. Akron is producing a growing number of intelligent and independent Negro voters.

9-6-37

Atlanta, Ga.

One of the Rewards for Faithful Party Allegiance

Sweeps, Shovels for 40 Long Years

THE COMING PRIMARY

IT will be a new primary election on Tuesday, September 28.

Eagle

It will be a day on which thousands of Negro Voters will prove that they have become wholly conscious of their position and their power in a municipal election.

9-10-37

It will be a day on which thousands of them will break loose from old moorings—at last aware of their new opportunity to explore another route in their political voyage.

Cleveland, Ohio.

As we write this editorial there rises up before us the vivid memory of a mayoralty campaign two years ago. The recollection is deeply etched in our minds. We see again the bandaged heads of some of our young men, who in that campaign forgot personal safety in their effort to nominate a candidate whom they believed would show them tangible appreciation for their efforts.

But they were rudely disillusioned. The candidate completely forgot them—and turned his back, catering mainly to the vested interests who think of the Negro as "surplus population".

This memory is not bitter. It only serves to make us less foolish and determined, come what may, that we shall use our ballots intelligently on this primary day!

The memory is fresh in our minds, too, of the crowing of some cocks over the election results, when it seemed that the Negro vote was a negligible factor in that victory. And we remember too, the recent thrust which one of the trusted lieutenants in that victorious camp sent direct into the hearts of our poor unfortunates, when he said:

"The great white father in Washington is not taking care of you anymore. It is up to the City—and you had better be careful how you vote this Fall..."

We remember ... Oh, we remember so much...!

Political - 1937

Suffrage

Oklahoma.

Loses Third Vote Battle

Call 4-30-37

Former Oklahoma Negro Mayor Had Sued

Kansas City, Mo.

MUSKOGEE.—A Wagoner county Negro lost his third court battle against the 1916 Oklahoma registration law, which he contended prevents Negroes from voting.

Federal Judge A. P. Murrah upheld constitutionality of the law in the $10,000 damage suit of I. W. Lane against Wagoner county election officials.

4-30-37

Judge Murrah told Lane the issues raised should be taken to the United States supreme court.

Lane is former mayor of Redbird, a Negro community.

Denial of Vote To Negroes in Okla. Fought

[illegible]

Denial of the right to vote to Negro residents of Wagoner County, Oklahoma, will be tested shortly in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, 10th Circuit, when the $10,000 damage suit brought by R. W. Lane against three county officials comes up for appeal. The American Civil Liberties Union and the National Association for the Aid of Colored People are supporting the appeal.

The N. A. A. C. P. has been fighting the registration since October 1934. The Lane case is an appeal from the decision of the Federal District Court on April 21, 1937 upholding the Oklahoma law. Attorney Charles A. Chandler of Muskogee, Okla. is representing Lane, the A. C. L. U. and the N. A. A. C. P

Political - 1937
Suffrage.

Oklahoma

Did You Fight For Your Rights Tuesday?

One does not have any more rights than he thinks he has and for which he is willing to fight. The sooner Negroes learn this lesson in Oklahoma and all over the Southland, the better off they will be.

In many communities of Oklahoma Tuesday, Negroes did note vote in school board elections, while in a few, where an attorney general's ruling did not take precedence of the law, Negroes did vote.

The Black Dispatch was flooded with requests for information during recent weeks, and since the first primary, regarding an opinion of Attorney General Mac Q. Williamson, which held that Negroes could not vote in independent districts where the majority vote is white.

In every instance we told the Negro voters to disregard the opinion and to proceed by the best legal methods obtainable to secure ballot provileges in their school elections.

Down at Ardmore, in Carter county, members of the Community club decided they would not sit supinely by and allow their rights to be taken away from them in any such manner. So, following the advice we gave them, they sought a mandamus proceeding in the district court which resulted in their voting in the school election Tuesday.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

A great many citizens place the wrong construction upon an attorney general's opinion. A ruling from this office serves only as guidance for county officials but does not necessarily need to be accepted as a correct interpretation of the law. This is not the first time that the N. A. A. C P. has had to set Atty. Gen. Williamson on his uppers. When that gentleman arrived in the city of Washington to send Jess Hollins to the hot seat, he discovered that what he did not know about the law in that case would fill a book. And it was a Negro lawyer, Dean Charles H. Houston, who dished out the information for our Oklahoma attorney general.

Again in Ardmore it was a Negro lawyer who had the facts and was able to present them to the court. How many communities in the state sat idly by and allowed themselves to be disfranchised Tuesday?

The Oklahoma ruling which avers that Negroes do not have the right to vote in school elections overlooks the important fact that Negroes are taxed to maintain white schools in most of the independent districts of the state, (there are a few where Negroes are in the majority) but in every instance where an independent district exists and Negroes reside, the tax to maintain that school, even if it runs up to the legal limit of 15 mills, is levied against the black man's property.

In cities of the first class, as in Ardmore, the estimates covering the separate school budget and the administration of the separate school fund is in the hands of the city board of education. To say Negroes should not have a right to say who these board members should be could not be sustained in a court of last resort.

It is a rule well defined in the Supreme Court of the United States that the power to tax is the power to destroy. Any rule that provides a means by which men may tax ther men without the citizens taxed having the right to recall the tax gatherers contributes to confiscation.

This was the position taken by the Superior Court judge of Okmulgee county where Tuesday Negroes sought and secured an injunction against the election officials. The Okmulgee judge held that since the city board of education made the estimates and had entire management of the Negro schools, that Negroes had a right to say who those school board members should be.

While this is true we think the other question we raise is more vital. Why should people have tax levies made on their property without the right to vote for or against such levies?

OKLAHOMAN FIGHTS FOR HIS BALLOT

Call

I. W. Lane of Red Bird Files Suit in Denver Court

11-19-37
Kansas City, Mo.

MUSKOGEE. (Special)—I. W. Lane, 67 years old, who lost his case in a local court against election officials of Wagoner county, Okla., filed an appeal in the United States circuit court of appeals for the tenth district at Denver last week.

Lane, who lives in Red Bird, Okla., originally filed his case in the United States district court for the eastern district of Oklahoma here, seeking a judgement of $5,000 and punitive damages of $5,000 against Jess Wilson, registrar of Wagoner county; Marion Parks, precinct registrar; and John Moss, county judge.

Charges Unconstitutionality

Lane contends that these three officials denied him the right to vote in the last general election, although he was fully qualified to do so. He charges them with a violation of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments of the constitution.

He claims that he was denied the voting privilege because of his "race color and previous condition of servitude."

Further, Lane charges that for years a conspiracy has existed to prevent Negroes from voting in Oklahoma. Officials of Wagoner county, Lane's petition says, have used every subterfuge for years to keep Negroes from the polls. He says that some precinct registrars have threatened violence and serious bodily harm upon Negroes if they insisted upon their rights.

Filed in Denver

Lane filed his appeal in Denver as that is the seat of the tenth circuit of the United States court of appeals, the circuit in which Oklahoma is located.

A verdict was returned against Lane when his case was tried in the federal district court here. In his decision United States District Judge Alfred P. Murrah said, "The right of a state to set its own standard for suffrage is undisputed and undenied."

If necessary, Lane plans to carry his fight to the United States supreme court.

Dare to Fight For Rights

The Oklahoma Negroes who have brought suit in the U. S. court to stop Wagoner county officials from depriving them of their vote, know their rights and dare maintain them. At the same time they defend the democratic principle on which this nation is founded. Taxation without representation is as great an evil now as it was when it caused the colonists to revolt from British rule. It is no less an injustice because it singles out blacks to impose on. Whatever public money buys, all should share. Most of all the poor should have their part, because they bear the heaviest part of the tax burden.

Call

An attempt to get something for nothing would be ridiculed out of industry or social relations. But because race prejudice is behind it it is the habit of some states to let Negroes bear burden, but have no say whatever in public policies or public offices. These Wagoner county officials, so far as Negroes are concerned, are attempting despotism decades after the divine right of kings has been thrown into the discard.

12-3-37
Kansas City, Mo.

Disfranchisement of Negroes is neither law nor custom in Oklahoma, except where there are officials like these in Wagoner county. For that reason the rights of the complainants in this case ought to be easy to establish. Suits will be harder to win in states like Mississippi where disfranchisement has the support of law and of dominant opinion. But even there Negroes should try to get the ballot. It is too basic to lose. Evidently time and patience is not the cure. If the current of events in southern states is to reverse itself, after a generation of restrictive legislation, men must set machinery in motion which will make it change.

This court attack upon disfranchisement is timely. The national president of the Young Democrats indicates how different is the attitude of younger whites today when he lets himself be quoted as saying he would like to see qualified Negroes in Alabama register and vote. That is all Negroes want. They want to be their own man, with the right to their own thinking and freedom of action which others have.

For the least citizen to be subject to the dictation of the more powerful, kills the democratic principle at the roots. Because that is so, whites should realize that the effort which Negroes make for the right to vote, is really a contribution to community welfare. This is our common country. Each of us is duty bound to guard the walls near our house. Disfranchisement, the attack upon American principles most deadly to Negroes, is theirs to overcome. This move by Oklahomans is a good example. May others follow it!

Political-1937

Suffrage

Pennsylvania

Power Of The Colored Vote Indicated In Marginal Win Of Democratic City Forces

Judiciary

Only 4 Divisions In 30th Ward In Republican Column; Ernest T. Wright Swamps Democrats

11-4-37

NEGROES SAVED DEMOCRATS

Rainey's Successor On Athletic Commission Claims Attention Of Local Politicians

Philadelphia, Pa.

By EDGAR W. ROSTER

With the election of State Athletic Commissioner Joseph H. Rainey on Tuesday as magistrate politicians are asking who will succeed Rainey on the Athletic Commission. Sleepy-eyed Democrats who sat all night listening to election returns which were so close that the election was in doubt until the final returns came in from the last ward were asking who will get Rainey's job?

While Jules Aronson, Secretary of the Athletic Commission, is reported to have the support of Jack Kelly there are those who are anxious to see Governor Earle strengthen his position among colored people by the appointment of a colored man to succeed Rainey. They point out that there have been three Athletic Commissioners who were colored, two under the Republicans and one under the Democrats.

Then, too, if a colored man is not appointed the election of Rainey will lose much of its effectiveness, because while the colored citizens have obtained another magistrate they will have lost the Commissioner, which will mean simply swapping jobs.

And the Democrats must remember that they would have lost the election had it not been for the colored vote.

The victory of Judge Rosen over Judge Kalodner gives Governor Earle another opportunity to appoint a colored judge to fill the vacancy left by Judge Rosen in the Municipal Court. It has been stated that Governor Earle will appoint Kalodner to the Municipal Court. But it is the opinion of quite a few Democrats that the Governor does not have to keep him on the public payroll.

The only divisions in the 30th Ward which gave the Republicans a majority were 3 white divisions in the western end of the Ward and the 9th, William Upshur's division. The approximate Democratic majority was 1,400.

Edward J. Cooke, former Republican leader of the 8th Ward, who turned in for the Democrats, lost to Amos Harris.

Deputy Recorder of Deeds Ernest T. Wright of the 14th Ward only gave the Democrats 49 votes to the Republicans 228 in the first division.

The bitterly contested fight proved the value of the colored vote. With the two parties evenly matched the colored voters are the balance of power. The election shows without a shadow of a doubt that the colored vote is an asset to any party, and that colored candidates can win with the proper support of the party leaders.

Political-1937
Suffrage

Tennessee

Maryville, Tenn. Enterprise
April 15, 1937

Colored Voters League

The East Tennessee Colored Voters League will meet Friday April 16th, at Hale High School. We have quite a number of important matters to look after. If interested in the welfare of our race please meet us.

S. W. B. Leeper, Prest.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
June 8, 1937

Oldest Negro Voter To Meet President

Special to The Journal

COOKEVILLE, June 7—Robinson Crusoe Buck, 92, declared to be the oldest Negro Democratic voter in the United States, left his home at Algood Sunday for Washington to be guest of the National Association of Crusaders.

He will be received by President Roosevelt, Vice-President Garner, Senator Kenneth McKellar, Representative J. Ridley Mitchell, and will visit both houses of Congress.

ATHENS VOTERS READY TO CAST VOTES TUESDAY

East Tennessee News
Knoxville, Tenn.

(By J. B. Butler.)

ATHENS, Tenn., July 6.—All indications point to the largest vote that has ever been polled in a city election when voters of this metropolis march to the polls to elect mayor, commissioners, city recorder and members of school board on Tuesday, July 13.

7-8-37

Many Negroes Qualified

Of particular interest is the large number of men and women of the Negro racial group who are qualified to vote this time. Their preparation has been made in a quiet manner, but thought and knowledge of duty to their city to the extent of having a part in the selection of officials to operate the government has been given due consideration.

7-8-37

Candidates Make Bid For Votes

In the last week's issue of the East Tennessee News, a number of candidates, including Hon. Paul J. Walker, for mayor, and Hon. Hugh D. Wilson, for recorder issued a request for support in their candidacies.

On Page 8, of this week's issue of ETN, announcements of Messrs. Ed. Millard and W. E. Ducworth, candidates for aldermen, and Mr. A. A. Spiggle, for re-election to membership on the city school board, as well as the announcement of Mr. J. L. Thomas, for city recorder, appear. These candidates are men of excellent ability and their every attitude in public and private life, evidenced a spirit of fairness and justice toward their fellowman.

The contests have been greatly enlivened due to the excellent type of men making the races, and it will be extremely difficult to tell until the balloting gets far underway, just who the leaders will be.

DO YOUR DUTY NOW!

East Tennessee News
Knoxville, Tenn.
8-12-37

THE BIENNIAL REGISTRATION, wherein all who would vote in approaching elections are required to go to registration books in their precincts and there have their names entered upon the books, is now on. The light registration during the first three days, especially in precincts inhabited for the most part by Negroes, is thoroughly alarming, and indicates a woeful lack of interest that will prove detrimental to the welfare of the Negro racial group.

The situation wherein unrestricted opportunity is afforded members of the Negro racial group to vote, and then such an opportunity is tossed aside in such a careless manner, presents one of "fiddling while Rome burns."

No activity engaged in by citizens could possibly be of greater importance than stepping to the registration books for the purpose of qualifying to vote. The matter should be considered a sacred duty, and certainly no persuasion should be necessary to bring about the performance of such a duty.

The registration booths are open today, (Thursday,) and Friday, from 9 a. m., to 8 p. m. Every person must register in order to vote. Don't delay another minute. As you greet your neighbor today and Friday, let it be "Have You Registered, yet?" instead of the usual "Good Morning."

For the sake of your every interest, together with that of your children, qualify to vote, and perform that duty before it is too late.

Political - 1937
Suffrage.

Texas.

DALLAS TAKES CHALLENGE IN POLL TAX RACE

Informer

Hurls Defy And Says She Will Get More Than Houston

1-9-37

HOUSTON. — The Dallas Progressive Voters League sent a letter to Dr. Wm. Drake, head of the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce Poll Tax Drive defying Houston Negroes and pledging to secure more Poll tax receipts by January 31 than the Chamber of Houston gets. The letter was sent by A. Maceo Smith, secretary of P. V. L. in answer to a telegram by Dr. Drake, challenging Dallas.

Houston, Texas

The citizens of both Houston and Dallas are thus put on their merit. The fight is on! Dallas has led in all things civic heretofore. But Houston leaders seem determined that she shall not lead in the Poll Tax Drive. Now is the time for every good citizen to come to the rescue of their city. The telegram and letter follow:

Dr. L. G. Pinkston
3305 Thomas Ave.
Dallas, Texas.

Informer

The Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce has organized a City Wide Poll Tax Campaign and Challenges Your Organization that the Colored People of Houston will Pay a larger number of Poll Taxes by January 31-37 than the People of Dallas

1-9-37

Are you brave enough to accept the challenge.

Wire me immediately.
W. M. Drake, M. D.,
General Director

Houston, Texas

Dear Dr. Drake:

Your wire of December 30, addressed to Dr. L. G Pinkston, President of the Negro Chamber of Commerce has been referred to the attention of this office.

It will interest you to know that the Progressive Voters League is a separate organization, political in nature, which safeguards the political interest of Dallas Negroes and which at the present time is conducting the poll tax drive.

We accept the challenge of your organization to secure a larger number of poll tax registrations in Dallas by January 31; however, I am sure you are cognizant of the fact that the 1930 census gives Houston a decidedly larger Negro population than Dallas. Howbeit we make no apology for population numbers. The people of Dallas feel they will continue their leadership of all Texas towns in the matter of civic and political rights and responsibilities. We accept the challenge in good faith and tender our cooperation toward comenting the political forces of Texas looking forward to a brighter day for Texas Negroes.

Very truly yours,
Progressive Voters League,
A. Maceo Smith, Secretary.

VOTERS LEAGUE OF DALLAS TO ACCEPT POLL TAX CONTEST

DR. WILLIAM M. DRAKE
Poll Tax Drive Director

negro Editor names.

Replying to a challenge issued on behalf of the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce by Dr. W. M. Drake, general drive director, the Progressive Voters League of Dallas, through Secretary A. Maceo Smith, has accepted the defi for a poll tax paying contest between Negroes in these two cities.

1-9-37

Houston, Texas -

The drive, which will terminate January 31, 1937, is for the purpose of registering a larger number of Negroes as eligible voters for 1937.

Mr. Smith avers that Dallas will "continue to lead the cities of Texas in civic matters," while Dr. Drake retorts that he and the local chamber are "from Missouri" and must be shown. Hence the inter-city contest is on and how!

WHICH WAY OUT?

After the smoke and noise of the political campaign have passed away we note that the Negroes of Texas are still disfranchised. As long as Negroes are disfranchised elections per se are for Negroes only incidental to their efforts to get an effective vote. Our approach to our problem has been with all too little thought, too light a step. Negroes must recognize that they are held in political slavery by the deliberate, intentional act of over 5,000,000 people, organized into a commonwealth. Hot air from the soap box won't solve our problems.

Informer

Unfortunately, there are too many Negroes, who prefer a place in the parade to substantial improvements in their rights. Even when the man Kalso has been annihilated in the city election at Houston there are still a few zealous, but ignorant, citizens saying, "The INFORMER fought our only chance to vote in the general election in 30 years!" It will hardly avail to tell such people that Howard Kelso never had any following and never will in his life; that The INFORMER told him and others that before the vote proved it; that Kelso didn't give Negroes anything they didn't have, they could have run any Negro and polled more votes. This type doesn't want facts. They want to curse their way out of their predicament. They threaten to quit reading The INFORMER but never miss a week. They want the center of the stage.

1-2-37

Far from apologizing for our stand we are restating it: In a state where Democrats are in overwhelming majority, an independent cannot win in a general election unless he is able to split the Democratic vote. Stated another way, no independent can win on the Negro vote alone but must bring a larger vote than the Negro vote before he can hope to win with the Negro vote. Even where the vote in general elections is usually small, it can, and will always, be rallied to beat a weak independent. Kelso's race but demonstrated these truths. Any leader who sought to lead against these truths was either uninformed or insincere. In another month the Kelso issue will be as dead as the Young Negro Republican Party, which died aborning.

Houston, Texas

Nor do we recede from our position on Republicans. The INFORMER is independent politically—not neutral. We are stubbornly loyal to one political platform: the right of Negroes of Texas to an effective vote. We are plumb sick of being sold down the river by Republicans. Who was a greater apostle of Lilywhitism than Herbert Hoover? Who held that the Democratic party was a private club, but a Republican Supreme Court of the United States? Who held against our rights down here? Republican-appointed Federal Judges. Did the Republicans when they had a clear majority in both houses pass the Dyer anti-lynch bill? Hoover even took the office of Register of Deeds from us. Perhaps at one time there was a stigma attached to supporting Democrats against Republicans but that day has gone forever. The INFORMER doesn't desire to pretend. It is frankly advocating the policy of trying to get the vote by continuing to play ball with the Democrats.

The liberalizing forces are on the loose in America today, corroding social chains and knocking down economic barriers. Negroes of Texas have already been affected. They were swept over to the Democratic side of the fence during the presidential election for the first time since they were freed. History is in the making. Our thoughtless leaders keep trying to turn back the wheels of time by appealing to the ghosts of yesterday. But the peoples' instincts have sensed the change and they are marching with it.

Instead of a lot of baldergosh about their folly during the last election, let the leaders turn their thoughts to the future and drive to get poll taxes paid. Why aren't booths open and agents out to collect poll taxes? When it is time for fundaments we are mouthing about inconsequentials. 50,000 active, alert poll tax receipts would pull

Political-1937
Suffrage.

Texas.

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POLL TAX DRIVE GOING OVER TOP

Informer

1-30-37

Houston Texas

HOUSTON.—The Poll Tax drive sponsored by the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce is going over in a big way.

Every ward, the West End and the Heights have been organized and many committees are earnestly at work trying to make Houston lead Dallas in this great poll tax drive. Many of our professional people and leaders among the masses in city and in industrial organizations are impressing a larger number than ever before of the necessity of paying their poll taxes.

Those of you who have not decided to pay your poll tax this year by Saturday night of this week listen to this appeal.

We are in the mud in a political slavery because you are asleep and cannot be awakened in time to save yourself from the mob from policemen and officers who do not regard the life of any person who does not possess power by being the possessor of a poll tax receipt. By paying your poll tax you are protecting your own life, the lives of the members of your family, you are protecting your property taxes your property and your community as a whole. The 75,000 Negroes in Houston are asked to wake up and prove to the world that they are intelligent enough not only to accept political opportunities but to assume political responsibilities.

The first political responsibility is to pay your poll tax and become a real citizen.

Men and women I appeal to you to pay your poll taxes now because there will be several elections this year in which you will be permittd to vote. A man or woman in Texas after this month who does not possess a poll tax receipt will be indeed a pitiable person but many will censure him for sleeping in the midst of a "storm."

W. M. Drake, M. D., general drive Poll Tax Director for The Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Voters' League In Dallas Enters Home Stretch Of Huge Poll Tax Drive

Dallas Express

2-1-37

Dallas Tex.

Voters League campaign for increased poll tax registration, in Dallas is now in the final stage of activity. Interest is rampant throughout the city and all Dallas agencies are at work to bring out the heaviest poll tax registration in the history of Dallas. Deputy collectors have been named and assigned to Negro districts on the 28, 29 and 30 of the month to receive poll tax money and issue official receipts to prospective voters Booths will be located in the following places in Dallas; at Smith Drug Store, Corner Hall and Thomas: South Dallas. Stephens Drug Store. Metropolitan near Atlanta; Oak Cliff. Black and Clark Undertaing Company. 1109 E. 10th street. All persons who have not paid their poll tax by time may have the privilege of this convenence.

At the Thursday night meeting of the Voters League the precinct organization was completed and charged with the duties of not only bringing out the registration but to perfect the precinct organizations with a complee political tie-up with the organization in the coming April election.

The socal clubs of the city have combined their activities through the senior and junior federation of clubs for contact with the membership of the respective clubs and other interested citizens. Seventeen insurance companies have registered their interest and the field agents of these compaines are covering their debits with a canvass for increased registration. The Ministers Alliance is carrying the message through the churches The essay contest under the supervision of Mrs. D. B. Hill is carrying the message to the parents through the schools. Mr. Austin Richards heads the movement through the hotel men. Mr. M. M Ward has general supervision over industrial plants and down town groups.

The following mass meetings will be conducted during the week: Tuesday night at St. Paul M. E. Church in North Dallas; Wednesday night at the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in South Dallas.

Permanent and temporary receipts are being stressed. Dallas is truly being aroused with this registration drive.

DALLAS NEGROES VOTE IN SOLID PHALANX UNDER BANNER OF PROGRESSIVE VOTERS' LEAGUE

Black Dispatch

4-17-37

45,000 NEGROES DECIDED TO WORK TOGETHER FOR COMMON PURPOSE—94-YEAR-OLD VETERAN GOES TO POLLS

Victory Dinner Held When School Bonds Carry

Okla. City

Black Dispatch

4-17-37

Okla. City Okla.

DALLAS, Texas, Apr. 12.—For the first time in the history of the South, Negroes voted as a block to turn the tide for the Forward Dallas Association in the councilmanic election, April 6, and put the whole ticket in the final runoff which will be held April 20. The devotion and unusual expression of community spirit which were exhibited during this part of the campaign are an example to Negro groups everywhere. The election proved a record maker as an overwhelming majority of the qualified electorate of Dallas Negroes went to the polls and cast a vote for their organic choice. Persons from all walks of life, young and old, formed a solid phalanx in this effort, determined to bring reforms and benefits to the group. A 94-year-old person voted ballot No. 26 in Queen City; likewise, a 21-year-old bride cast ballot No. 12 in precinct No. 5.

The school bond issue was carried, two to one, but it is felt in many circles that the new high schools are not finally determined until a friendly council is elected April 20.

The Progressive Voters League, the community-wide organization among Negroes, showed its strength, not only in putting its candidates in the runoff, but in the close knit unity which prevailed throughout Negro Dallas. The meeting places of Dallas were practically tied up with the Progressive Voters League program. Clubs, professional associations, business men's organizations, lodges and all other legitimate Negro organizations stood solidly behind the League program. The Negro newspapers, both local and foreign, carried no matter out of line with the policy of the League. A situation which is unique in the annals of political effort was that these newspapers were so thoroughly in harmony with the efforts of the community that they refused to accept legitimate advertising if it conflicted with the purpose of the group.

The Advisory Committee, which represents 106 organizations, celebrated with a victory testimonial Thursday night and each worker pledged his allegiance anew to fight to the end for reforms and benefits for the 45,000 Negroes who reside in Dallas, Texas. Tuesday's election proved convincingly that Negroes can get together on a common purpose and work for worthy causes.

DALLAS DAILY NOTES
NEGRO VOTING STRENGTH

Press Service of the N.A.A.C.P.
12-3-37 New York

Dallas, Tex. December 3.- In a news story published Nov.26 from its Washington bureau, the Times-Herald of this city stresses the growing influence of the Negro vote in the Democratic party and points to the fight for the anti-lynching bill now being carried on in the Senate as an example.

The paper's Washington correspondent, Bascom Timmons, asserts that Negroes have begun to exxrcise "enormous influence" in the Democratic party. His story cited the lobbying activities for the anti-lynching bill which were carried on in Washington by Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary.

down the Democratic bar any year. Gentlemen, the way out is through the space barred. The means to open the bar are a large block of poll tax receipts and the lever of friendship and goodwill.

POLL TAX DRIVE GOING OVER TOP

Informer

1-20-37

HOUSTON.—The Poll Tax drive sponsored by the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce is going over in a big way.

Every ward, the West End and the Heights have been organized and many committees are earnestly at work trying to make Houston lead Dallas in this great poll tax drive. Many of our professional people and leaders among the masses in city and in industrial organizations are impressing a larger number than ever before of the necessity of paying their poll taxes.

Those of you who have not decided to pay your poll tax this year by Saturday night of this week listen to this appeal.

We are in the mud in a political slavery because you are asleep and cannot be awakened in time to save yourself from the mob from policemen and officers who do not regard the life of any person who does not possess power by being the possessor of a poll tax receipt. By paying your poll tax you are protecting your own life, the lives of the members of your family, you are protecting your property taxes your property and your community as a whole. The 75,000 Negroes in Houston are asked to wake up and prove to the world that they are intelligent enough not only to accept political opportunities but to assume political responsibilities.

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Political - 1937
Suffrage.

Texas.

"They Ask For A Sign"

[illegible]

1-13-37

[illegible] Ga.

UNDER the present regime of liberal principles enunciated by the chieftain of the Democratic party there has been little hesitancy on the part of many colored citizens in lining up with that party. It is more of the principles as pronounced by Mr. Roosevelt than the tradition that has enhanced the party in all liberal and fair minded citizens.

At the last Democratic convention it was a Rev. Mr. Marshall Shepard, a colored minister who invoked divine guidance upon the great course charted for the unprecedented landslide which sent the party back in power. In that convention, members of the group sat and participated for the first time since the war between the states. Not only in the north but in the south there were those of the colored group who let it be known that they were for the New Deal.

The northern wing of the group has participated for many years in the councils of the Democratic party. Southern statesmen from those states having prohibitory election laws for the purpose of outlawing the colored group, had no objection to the aid given the party in its struggle for approval in the last election. Now that they needed [illegible] the assistance of that group in the east, the question arises as to why they do not enlist millions of eligible votes in the south going to waste every year.

There are many students in the south of the colored group who argued all along that it was not time for the colored group to go into the Democratic party. In spite of the liberal principles evident in the operation of the last administration, in the face of the nefarious election laws in the South, some of our best thinkers and parliamentarians still hold out.

Now, many state legislatures are in session in the South, or soon will be. The Georgia general assembly is on and it is squarely up to those stalwart solons who love Mr. Roosevelt and who wish his principles perpetuated to repeal the election laws prohibiting Negroes from participating in primaries and elections in this state. The legislature can render yeoman service and nothing could be more pleasing to Mr. Farley and his colored constituents all over the nation if it would stop at its Rubicon and consider.

Truth of the matter the Negro in Georgia is prohibited by law from being a full fledged Democrat. It is not left to his choice, and while the state wishes to conform to what Mr. Roosevelt wishes, it should make the bold stroke first turning loose those millions of voters who look to the great fountain head of the nation for their support.

Pressure should be brought to bear by those colored brethren beyond the Ohio river for the eradication of this evil hangover from the days of slavery.

The Colored People of the South are waiting for a SIGN!

WITHOUT VISION

[illegible]

3-13-37

That a great number of leaders in the downtown area and around the "gab" centers in the wards in Houston believed some good could come out of supporting the candidacy of Howard Kelso we understood. But we were surprised this week to hear a college man, business executive of real training and ability and wide contacts, say he supported Kelso because he thought it gave us an opportunity to show the Democrats our strength. The revelation was enough to fill one with dismay, for it meant that the man had done no reading or thinking about the hidden factors that determine the results of any course we take.

How can a man in threadbare clothes show off his taste in dressing? How can a boy on a stick horse show his horsemanship? The Democrats had 38,000 votes in sight, as shown by the primary. Negroes in Houston could not have mustered 7,000 votes if every qualified voter had been ready to march to the polls. Put the respective votes on opposite sides of the equation and it's obvious that one must add to the 7,000 another 31,000 or reduce the 38,000 by 31,000.

With not a Negro precinct organized and no money or effort being spent to organize any, only people blinded by love of their race could expect to even vote all the possible Negro vote. It required a complaisant optimist to believe that a handful of Negro votes could show anything except extreme weakness, politically and mentally.

Evidently the gentleman and most of those who made the futile gesture, have failed to study the lesson taught by the primary election. 1040 votes didn't show anything except a lot of negatives so far as Negroes were concerned.

This man was not bought over to Kelso. Neither was he seeking personal preferment. He is a leader and has influence deservedly. He sincerely believed he was right. Now why was this intelligent, incorruptible man trying to lead Negroes down a blind alley? He made his decision and took his stand on too narrow an issue. Which forces us to revise our opinion about the trouble with our leaders. All of them are not wrong because they are corrupt. We must seek another explanation.

To visualize a course of escape from any situation requires that those who would shape the course be conscious of all the facts and problems that inhere in the given situation, as well as being constantly mindful of the goal sought. Our true goal is more park space, more playgrounds, better school facilities so our children may have the chance for decent training and development. We want better streets, fair treatment by the courts and police and a proportionate share in the government of our communities and state.

We do not believe we can get these things and enjoy them with any certainty without a free and untrammelled vote in government affairs. So essential does the vote seem to the attainment of the goal, we have gotten accustomed to saying that our goal is the vote. The importance of seeing the distinction here set out is that it will permit leaders to use any other means of getting the improvements we need at the same time we fight for the vote, which we all agree is essential.

A correct concept of our goal will enable our leaders to set a course that will permit us to hold what we have while we fight for the bigger things we want. Lack of vision too often has betrayed our leaders into gambling all we have against the empty honor of a protest. So that the history of the Texas Negro has been a series of advances and retrogressions. Broader vision will permit us to make steadier progress.

Besides seeing the goal clearly, a prime requisite of broad vision is to know and understand the facts. Throughout Texas we need to increase the number of Negro poll tax payers. Talk won't do it. We must spend time and money. But that's only a step, for if we registered every qualified Negro voter in Texas, we could not beat the Democrats. We must study the weakness and the strength of the Democrats and the Republican remnant, looking for a segment that we can join to get such strength as will permit us to gain our goal.

These objectives require study and work. Our leaders have been attempting to lead without either. They have been like pilots trying to steer in a sea they knew nothing of. One must visualize a course before he can steer it. But how can one visualize a safe course, who does not know where lies the shoals, the deeps or the shallows.

We have witnessed our leaders talking authoritatively in recent campaigns, who did not even understand the surface implications of the respective candidacies. These men are without vision and leadership without vision is blind. Blind leadership can't lead. But, as Elmer Carter pointed out, in a democracy leadership loses by default. If they don't lead the people will. That is exactly what the people have done in the recent elections,—left their leaders high and dry and chosen their own course.

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Political - 1937
Suffrage.

Daily World
1-13-37
Atlanta, Ga.

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Texas.

Informer
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We are not living in the hey day of Wright Cuney. We are not even in the muddling day of Hoover. We are on the inside of the threshhold of a new area, where the emphasis is upon the rights of labor and the protection of children, the blind and the aged. The establishment of these rights and these protections carries the negation to the present opposition to our true goal; and the implication of support of our right to a free vote. But our leaders are plodding along in the Republican rut and have no vision for today's guidance.

White newspapers and politicians who have heretofore assailed the Negro vote as corrupt and venal were faced with a new technique and a new policy in this election. There were over 7,000 registered and qualified Negro voters in Dallas this year. The leaders of the league who pushed the fight were President Jackson, A. Maceo Smith, A. A. Brasewell and Rodger Q. Mason.

Predicts Texans Will Win Primary Ballot

Defender 4-24-37

AUSTIN, Tex., April 23—Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, trustee of Tillotson college, and chairman of Southern Inter-Racial Council spoke to the student body of the college on April 15 indicating it is her firm conviction that Texas Race members will win the primary ballot within a very short time and that it behooves the Race leaders, educators and religious directors to begin training the great masses of our people for citizenship so that they may assume their new duties with honor and pride.

Because of a liberalization of attitude and a widespread labor movement it is believed that the death of the "white man's primary" is but a matter of time and the Race must be prepared for intelligent exercise of the right of suffrage. This was the opinion of Mrs. Ames, who spoke with the fire of firm conviction, her eyes blazing and her words pronounced with emphasis as is the custom of this champion of the underprivileged.

Mrs. Ames is also chairman of the Southern Association of Women Against Lynching and has been outspoken in her denunciation of "lynch law." She has been most active in her lobbying for federal anti-lynch laws and from her home in Atlanta, Ga., has carried on several noteworthy crusades and is a genuine friend of the Race who understands southerners of both races.

Mrs. Ames made headlines several months ago with her telegram to Governor Allred of Texas denouncing his hesitancy in calling out troops to prevent a possible lynching.

What intelligent use of the ballot would mean to civil liberties in Texas can be judged from a comparison with Illinois. The two states have approximately the same population, seven million, but Texas has 1,000,000 Negroes to Illinois' 350,000. Three times as much latent power is in Texas!

NEGROES IN DALLAS HELP WIN ELECTION

Call

Stand Together Solidly in Fight for New School And Policeman

4-30-37

DALLAS.—Negro voters of Dallas, following a progressive leadership with a new technique in Southern politics, helped to swing an election Tuesday. Five members of the Forward Dallas ticket, constituting a majority on the city council, a ticket supported by the Progressive Negro Voters League, rode to office on the crest of heavy majorities.

With a new mayor and a favorable council in office, Dallas Negroes are looking forward to a new school, colored policeman to patrol colored districts, paved streets in their localities, adequate proration of city employment, parks and play ground facilities and city cooperation in the promotion of better housing and slum clearance units in colored districts.

100 Workers

The drive among Negro voters was pivoted through the Progressive Voters League, an organized federation of city leaders, formed by the Ministerial Alliance of Dallas. Over 100 precinct workers were thrown into the field.

The Rev. M. H. Jackson, prominent Dallas minister, who heads the League, said funds were contributed by Negroes themselves. The organization blasted venal leadership which seeks individual crumbs and favors from larger powers at the expense of the Negro masses. Political grafters and racketeers were denounced in circulars and by speakers.

Over 7,000 Qualified Voters

Dr. Jackson, who is an alert thinker with a practical and intellectual mind, expressed the opinion in an interview that this political philosophy is suitable for all sections of the south. He believes Negroes should raise their own campaign expense funds which will place them in a position to make respectful requests of politicians seeking office.

The voters league, he stated, decided through its advisory committee, whom the body is to support for public office. The advisory committee is made up of representatives from every legitimate organization in Dallas. Thus the choice of the league is representative of the people of Dallas.

Dallas Voters League Over 7000 Strong

Daily World 5-15-37 Atlanta, Ga.

DALLAS, Tex.—(A N P)—Since being of material assistance in the late election in Dallas, numerous inquiries have been made asking for details in the momentous battle waged in Dallas by the Dallas Progressive Voters' League.

The Progressive Voters' League, 814 Good street, Dallas, M. H. Jackson, president; A. Maceo Smith, executive secretary, was formed two years ago when leaders here felt that old methods in politics for the Negro would no longer work. Working through the Ministers' Alliance and other civic-minded organizations, an advisory body of 106 men and women met and elected nine members to an executive committee to make plans for launching an intensive registration drive for Negroes.

This plan gained the support of citizens and on February 1, 1937, over 7,000 colored citizens paid their poll taxes and registered as voters.

When time came for the primary, there were found to be five tickets in the field, all with men up for election who professed a willingness to help the colored people of Dallas. Each candidate was contacted by the P. V. L. and each was asked to visit the offices. The P. V. L. prepared a platform which they presented to them. The colored voters league asked no money to finance ther campaign, anew and novel method in local politics. After each candidate signed a prepared statement, promising to support issues of P. V. L., they were in a quandary.

Using a process of elimination, the league decided to support the "Forward Dallas Ticket," composed of seven members of the present council and two other fine citizens, L. M. Rice and George Ripley.

At the primary election the nine men supported by the league were nominated and at the run-off, were elected by a small majority. It was one of the most heated campaigns in the history of Dallas, and only by organizing each block, precinct, district and ward were members of the league able to maintain a solid front among the colored voters. They secured a poll tax list and sent out workers to contact each name on the list. Thus they were able to elect five members of their ticket.

Winning candidates carried each Negro precint solidly and it was their balance of power which enabled each winner to be elected.

Because of this victory, attributed to the colored voters, Dallas, will receive a new high school, bonds for $2,350,000 having been voted, they will also get one or two parks. The Progressive Voters' league has asked much more of the elected men and stand a good chance of getting most of what they asked.

White daily papers have attributed the winning of the election to the colored vote, one paper stating, "this is the first time in Texas, maybe in the South, that Negro votes have won a city election." This statement was given out by the paper favoring the opposition ticket.

As a testimonial of appreciation, the Voters' league presented to its president, M. H. Jackson, a Corona portable typewriter, at a meeting of the Advisory committee this past week.

Political-1937

Texas.

Suffrage

DALLAS VOTERS SHOW THE WAY

Informer

5-1-37

Houston Texas

In the recent city election, held April 20, five out of nine of the successful candidates elected undoubtably owe their election to the Progressive Voters' League, composed of the bulk of Negro poll tax payers of Dallas. But as significant as the victory is, it is not as important as the fact that at last the leadership and effort of all Dallas Negroes is united and organized to work for the general good of Dallas and the improvement of the living conditions of Negroes.

No little credit is due to the leaders, who submerged personal ambitions and teamed up to see to it that every precinct and every individual Negro was contacted and directed to the polls to vote solidly for what the community needed. These leaders didn't seek, and didn't accept, any money from any candidate or any faction. They put their own money out for the necessary expenses. They went to meeting after meeting. They selected and instructed precinct leaders and stayed on the job to see that the Negroes in the precincts were contacted and instructed.

We have said before that the way to organize is to organize. Talk won't do it. Precincts must be organized. Meetings must be held. The psychology of our leaders in the past has been in the way of essential organization. They have talked organization, but when the time came they dropped into the old mental habit of seeking what they could get for delivering the Negro vote. At last the Dallas leadership has rid itself of the "gimme" habit and become real men and leaders. Dallas and the state are to be congratulated upon the results achieved.

The people of Dallas will hardly need to be reminded that their true aim was not to elect certain men but by their election to get better schools, parks and playgrounds. That aim is not completed with the election of the candidates through whom they hope to get a fair deal. They must follow through with plans, suggestions and requests for the things their group needs. Their leaders have shown that they may be trusted to work out the plans and keep pushing for all that is just and fair.

Perhaps it may be well to suggest to those who may become hotheaded or over-boastful of their success that character is marked by humility and fairness. To those inclined to boast and swagger, may it be said that if Negroes' presence in the city election becomes obnoxious, ways may be found to remove them and leave them out, as Negroes are left out in a few other benighted cities like Houston. The victory should be taken in stride and as a part of the day's work without unseemly boasting, which will embarrass their leaders. In plain English, we mean the loud mouths should not go among white people boasting; but should let the leaders do the talking.

It will be fervently hoped by all thinking Negroes of the state that, those entrusted with the task of getting the things Negroes need, will make reasonable and fair requests. If impossible demands are made, the hands of those committed to giving Negroes a fair deal will be tied and even they may be driven ultimately to hostility. The Negro leaders of Dallas carry a far heavier burden on their heads now than before the victory and need level heads more.

As Dallas has set the course in organization, we confidently expect them to continue the pace by courageous but sensible exposition of the Negroes' need. The campaigns for the first election and the run-off reflect credit upon the better type of leaders among the white race as well as those of our group. We are again reminded of a thought Mrs. Olivia Fuller left with Negroes at a recent NAACP meeting: "Living fully means giving ourselves for the common good,—melting ourselves in the common effort." Dallas voters have shown us how it works in actual practice.

NEGRO VOTE TURNS DALLAS ELECTION; 5 CANDIDATES WIN

Negro Labor News

5-1-37

Houston Texas

DALLAS, Texas.—(Sp.)—Under the leadership of the Progressive Voters League, Dallas Negroes went to the polls Tuesday, April 20, voted the Forward Dallas ticket straight and were the deciding factor in placing five members of their ticket on the city council to serve for the next two years. The five places constitute a majority of the council and this group will elect a mayor who will serve the city.

It is generally conceded even by the opposition, that the Negro vote was the turning point in this elec-

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Negro Labor News

5-1-37

Houston Texas

It is well known that few of the eight million Negsoes of the South ever get a chance to serve on a jury, and that Negroes therefore, in being tried for criminal offenses do not have the advantages they would otherwise be theirs. This is especially a handicap in cases involving offenses against persons of other races. It is also a distinct disadvantage in the trial of civil cases where one party is white and the other colored. If the jury is all white, and the Negro has no opportunity to have members of his race among them, it is easy to see thao he will be at distinct disadvantage. Why is it true, then, that even though in some of the Southern states Negroes comprise from one-half to one-fourth of the population and in some counties Negroes actually outnumber the whites, Negroes very rarely are called upon to take part in the administration of justice by serving on a jury? What has the supreme court said about this?

Since 1879 the supreme court has consistently held that the right to serve on juries cannot be denied any person because of race. In that year in the case of Ex Parte Virginia, it was held that section four of the Civil Rights Bill passed by congress in 1875 was valid, and that an indictment against a state officer under this sertion for excluding persons from the jury list on account of their color would be sustained.

This question of Negroes serving on juries is usually raised when a Negro is convicted in a state court and appeals his conviction to the U. S. Supreme Court on the ground that he was denied due process of law and the equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. That is the provision that saved the nine Scottsboro (Alabama) boys in the second appeal to the supreme court, in the case of Norris v. Alabama, decided April 1935. It was conclusively proved at the trial in Alabama that Negroes were not called to jury service and had not been for a large number of years, even though there were many Negroes in the county qualified to serve as jurors.

The precedent for the Scottsboro cases, however, was laid down in 1880 by the supreme court in the famous case of Neal v. Delaware. In this case William Neal, a Negro, was indicted and convicted for rape and sentenced to death. The constitution of Maryland at that ime contained a provision excluding Negroes from jury service. The court held that the exclusion, because of their race and color, of citizens of African descent from the grand jury was a violation of the prisoner's constitutional rights, which the trial court was bound to redress and the remedy for any failure of the part of the trial court in that respect is in the supreme court, and the conviction of the defendant by such a jury will be reversed by the supreme court. This rule has been consistently followed in saving Negroes from conviction in Southern courts.

A similar case was Carter v. Texas, 177 U. S. 442 (1900). Seth Carter, a Negro, was indicted for murder and moved to have indictment quashed on ground that Negroes were illegally excluded from the grand jury. The court refused to hear any evidence on the motion and the motion was denied and defendant convicted. The defendant appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court where the judgment was reversed and the court repeated the established rule:

"Whenever by any action of the state, whether through its legislature, through its courts or through executive or administrative offices, all persons of the African race are excluded, solely because of their race or color, from serving as grand jurors in the criminal prosecution of a person of the African race, the equal protection of the laws is denied to him, contrary to the Fourteenth Amendment of the constitution of the United States."

However, the supreme court restricts the above mentioned rule to its narrowest terms. The court held in 1879 in the case of Virginia v. Rives that a person of one race cannot demand as a matter right that juries to try a cause in which he is a party shall be composed in whole or in part of members of his race. That is to say, the supreme court will not reverse a conviction of a Negro merely because no Negro sat on the jury. A conviction will only be reversed when it can be shown that Negres are systematically excluded from the right to be called for jury service in the particular county where the trial took place.

The case of Virginia v. Rives involved two colored boys who were indicted for the murder of a white man. When the case was called for trial the defendants made a motion that the court modify the venire, which was composed entirely of the white race, so as to allow one-third thereof to be composed of colored men. The motion was overruled on the ground that the venire had been drawn according to law. Section 641 of the revised statutes of the United States provided for the removal of a case to the United States courts if a party could not get his constitutional rights in the state courts. On a habeas corpus petition the colored defendants were taken from the couny jail and delivered to the United States marshal. When the case reached the U. S. Supreme Court this court held against the Negroes and ordered that they be redelivered to Virginia, on the ground that the laws of Virginia did not exclude Negroes from jury service, and that if they were excluded it was individual action on the part of the officials in charge of the jury, and not state action.

The court further said: "A mixed jury in a particular case is not essential to the equal protection of the law. It is a right to which any colored man is entitled, that in the selection of jurors to pass upon his life, liberty or property, there shall be no exclusion of his race, and no discrimination against them because of his color. But he has no right to have the jury composed partly of colored men."

Again in 1879 the supreme court handed down another famous decision upholding the rights of Negroes to serve on juries. This was the case of Strauder v. West Virginia in which a colored man was indicted for murder. Negroes were not permitted to serve as jurors by the laws of West Virginia. Before the trial commenced in the state court, the defendant presented a petition praying for a removal of his case to the circuit court of the United States because by virtue of the laws of West Virginia no Negro could serve on the jury. The petition was based on a federal law providing for the removal of a case from the state court to the federal court if a defendant could not get his constitutional rights in the former.

The petition was denied and the defendant was convicted in the state court. On appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court the conviction was reversed and the cause ordered transferred to the federal court. The supreme court said: "The right to a trial by jury is guaranteed to every citizen of West Virginia by the constitution of the state, and the consitution of juries is a very essential part of the protection such a mode of trial is intended to secure. The very idea of a jury is a body of men composed of the peers, or equals of the persons whose rights it is selected to determine; that is, of his neighbors, fellows, associates, persons having the same legal status in society as that which he holds.'

In Gibson v. Mississippi (126 U. S. 565) 1896, the supreme court practically nullified the effect of the removal statute as construed in Strauder v. West Virginia. A Negro defendant in an indictment filed a petition asking the cause to be removed to U. S. Circuit Court under section 641 of U. S. statutes, which provided for removal if defendant could not secure his rights under U. S. constitution. The petition stated that in the county 7,000 colored citizens were competent for jury service and 1,500 whites. Yet there had not been for a number of years any colored men summoned for jury service and that Negroes were excluded on account of race and color. The petition for removal was denied by the Mississippi court and the defendant convicted.

On appeal to the United States Supreme Court no redress was given. The supreme court held that since the laws of Mississippi did not contain any provision expressly discriminating against Negroes or preventing the enforcement of rights secured by any law of the United States for the protection and enforcement of the equal rights of all citizens thereof, the possibility that, during the trial of a particular case, a state court may not respect and enforce the right to the equal protection of the laws, constitutes no ground for removing the prosecution to a federal court, in advance of the trial. Neither does the fact justify such relief when the state laws do not provide for any such discrimination.

Thus we see that if a Negro is convicted of a crime, and he is able to prove that all members of his race are excluded by law or custom from the right to serve on juries that indict and try him, the case will be reversed by the U. S. Supreme Court. Unfortunately, this does not do the average Negro accused of crime any good because it takes a very large sum of money to try a case in a way that all the necessary evidence can be included and taken to the supreme court. And the only cases that ever reach there are those in which some national organization gets behind them, and raises this vast sum of money. In spite of the repeated pronouncements of the supreme court since 1879 on this point, Southern states continue to deny Negroes the right to serve as jurors.

It seems that the only practical way that Negroes could be helped in this case is to pass a law requiring Negroes to be placed on all juries, trying cases to which a Negro is a party in proportion to their population in the country where the trial is taking place. It is hard to figure out how such a law could be passed and enforced, but it would surely give a protection that is greatly needed. If Negroes could vote in the South, they could in a large measure remedy this themselves. But the supreme court has not helped them much in this respect either.

However, it is interesting to note that the supreme court of Florida has followed the rule as laid down by the supreme court of the United States. In Bonaparte v. State, 65 Fla. 287 (1913) the Florida Supreme Court reversed the conviction of a Negro on the ground that Negroes were excluded from jury service by the sheriff of the county having the duty of selecting jurors, even though the census showed that in that county there were more Negroes residing than whites, and that such exclusion was solely on account of race and color, and that no Negro had been selected for jury service in that county in the past ten years. The sheriff admitted that none had served, and said he didn't know of any having been called in the last ten years.

"Due process of law" may be denied by a state to a Negro in other way than excluding Negroes from juries. The boys in the famous "Scottsboro case" were first saved by the supreme court because the trial court's failure to give the defendants time to secure a lawyer and prepare for trial.

The supreme court held that the trial dourt's failure to give the defendants a reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a denial of due process of law as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. (Powell v. Alabama, 287 U. S. 45, decided Nov. 7, 1932.)

The supreme court saved the lives of Negroes in another famous case coming up from the South by holding that a state may not permit an accused to be hurried to conviction under mob domination, where the whole proceeding is but a mask and in effect a legal lynching. This was the case of Moore v. Dempsey 261 U. S. 86.

In the recent case of Brown, Shields and Ellington v. Mississippi, three Negroes had been convicted of murder on the basis of confessions that were wrung from them by the most brutal torture imaginable. The conviction was affirmed by the Mississippi Supreme Court with two of the judges strongly dissenting. On appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court it was held in a unanimous decision handed down February 17, 1936, and written by Chief Justice Hughes, that the convictions should be reversed, and that a trial was a mere pretense where the state authorities contrived a conviction resting solely upon confessions obtained by violence committed by the sheriff, an officer of the state.

(To Be Continued)

Political-1937

Virginia

Suffrage

LYNCHBURGERS IN DRIVE FOR VOTERS

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

4-3-37

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Plans for increasing the number of voters among Negroes here were started last Monday by a joint committee representing the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Citizens Voters League.

When completed the program will include a citywide educational campaign to acquaint Negroes with their rights and duties as American citizens. Officials of the two sponsoring organizations expressed the belief that the campaign which will probably last at least six months will be a success if the civic pride and political consciousness of the people are awakened by an attractive educational drive.

One feature of the campaign will be a house to house canvass to ascertain the number of voters and non-voters in each Negro home in the city. Block and group meetings will be held to acquaint the people with every phase of balloting and political campaigns.

Benjamin H. Scott, president of the local branch of the NAACP, and N. F. Berry, president of the Citizens Voters League, are supporting the effort.

REGISTRATION TIME

Planet

6-12-37

Richmond Va.

THE RICHMOND PLANET again brings to the attention of its readers the fact that the registration of prospective voters in the August Primary and the November general election must be effected by July 1st. Only fifteen days remain for persons who have paid their poll taxes, but have failed to register to comply with the Virginia election laws and to complete the requirement which will entitle them to vote in the primary and in the election in November. Delay is dangerous. A sample application for registration which will enable applicants to meet the test appears elsewhere in this newspaper. Study the form and apply at once to Registrar W. S. Woodson. Room. 409 4th floor. City Hall.

Negroes Show Keen Interest In Local Democratic Primary

The Planet

Richmond, Va.

7-3-37

With the Democratic Primary one month off, Negro Democrats are evincing keen interest in the fothcoming contests. The primary will be held August 3rd and State officers from Governor down will be nominated.

Congressional Race

The race to fill the seat in Congress made vacant by the death of former Congressman Montague, seems to hold first place in the interest of Negro voters. David Satterfield, former Commonwealth's Attorney of Richmond, is vieing with State Senator Gordon B. Ambler for the honor of representing the 3rd District in Congress and landing this juicy plum. Colored friends of both candidates are active. Circulars letters are being mailed, signed by Negro adherents and whispered conversations as to the merit of respective favorites are apparently the campaign methods most in vogue.

Very seldom one hears any talk concerning the candidates for Governor it being generally conceded that due to the fact that Lieut. Governor Price is a Richmonder, this consideration assures him of the almost unanimous support of the Negro Democrats in this city. Senator Robert W. Daniel is a big favorite in the race for Lieutenant Governor, while none seems concerned as to whom will be the successful aspirant for Attorney General John Gallagher, the first name on the ballot, probably has the edge because of the proximity of his name on the ballot.

Other Races Draw Interest

The contest between John C. Goode and John E. Rose, Jr., for Commissioner of Revenue and the fight between Wilbur J. Griggs and John G Saunders for City Sergeant probably rank all others for city jobs. All four candidates have staunch friends among Negro Democrats and they are not inactive. No great deal of interest is being shown in the contests for Court Clerks, the incumbents in each case seemingly have the edge.

Herbert J. Hulce and Frank D. Epps are the candidates for City Treasurer. Mr. Hulce seems the favorite by long odds, while John B. Wiltshire will give J. Herbert Mercer a good race for Sheriff. At any rate the friends of Mr. Wiltshire are more active than those of his opponent.

The indications are that the Negro vote will largely influence the result of the contest for House of Delegates and Justice of the Peace because of the number of aspirants for these offices In some instances it is pointed out this vote will be the deciding factor Friends of various candidates are conducting a quiet but vigorous canvass in their behalf.

Alexandria, Va. Gazette
October 19, 1937

COLORED VOTERS MEET

An important meeting of the Colored Voters' Club will be held this evening at 8:15, at the Eastern Star Hall, 815 Gibbon street. All members and qualified voters are requested to attend the session.

May Register Up To July 19

Journal and Guide

Books Close 15 Days Prior To August Primary

7-10-37

Norfolk, Va.

There are 814 colored persons listed as having paid their poll tax for 1934-35 36; there are 159 who have paid for 1935-36; and 592 who have paid only for 1936, making a total of 1,565 on the poll tax list as having paid for one, two or three years.

According to the best guess available, there are exactly 709 of the above number who are registered and fully qualified to vote. Of these 389 are in the 21st precinct, and 320 are distributed among the following precincts: 1st, 4th, 6-7, 8-9, 10th, 20th, 30th, 31st, and 32d.

There are undoubtedly a large number on the list who are eligible as far as the poll tax payment is concerned, but who are not registered, and are not qualified to vote in either the August primary or November election.

Any such persons who have met the poll tax requirements have until July 19 to register and become fully qualified to vote, as the general registrar's office will register those who are otherwise qualified up to within 15 days of the primary.

Newport News, Va. Press
October 19, 1937

Negro Political Body To Convene

A mass-meeting sponsored by the Citizens' Voters' league, a Negro organization, will be held at 8 tonight at Zion Baptist church, Twentieth street and Ivy avenue, it was announced last night by Mrs. L. Marian Poe, Negro, head of the organization.

The purpose, it was stated, is to arouse interest among the Negro citizens in participating in the Nov. 2 election. A general discussion of the situation, with no formal speeches, is planned, Mrs. Poe stated.

THE PRIMARY

The Richmond Planet

Richmond Va.

7-10-37

Approximately eighteen hundred Negroes in Richmond are eligible to vote in the Democratic Primary of August 3rd. While this vote is ridiculously small considering the number of Richmond Negroes of voting age, it will be decisive in a number of contests which will be decided in the primary. With the exception of Justices of the Peace all of the positions will be filled by a city-wide vote. Eighteen hundred votes are not to be snarled at by any candidate, if these voters are properly informed and organized. The indications are that there will not be a difference of eighteen hundred votes between the total received by the successful and defeated candidate in a number of the contests. The race for Congress will, in all probability, fall within this group of contests.

If these 1800 Negro voters would pull together in the forthcoming Democratic Primary, some valuable lessons would be taught and serious thinking would be provoked on the part of the future aspirants for office in the City of Richmond.

Moreover, such an experience would not be without value to Richmond Negroes. It would prove emphatically that the exercise of the suffrage is the surest road to inter-racial cooperation.

All other roads are detours which might or might not lead into the main road. It might also be observed in this connection, that detours often cause hapless persons to lose their way.

Colored Democratic League Hits Astoria Club In Primary

League Cited For Sending Marked Sample Ballots To Prospective Voters

Planet 8-7-37

Richmond, Va.

Not since 1902 when the new constitution of Virginia was adopted and proclaimed has there been such activity displayed by Richmond Negroes in politics as was evidenced in the primary campaign which closed last Tuesday. For the past two months the election has been the absorbing topic of conversation in homes, clubs, street-corners, meeting places and wherever groups assembled. Arguments pro and con regarding the merit of the various candidates were the order of the day.

Meetings Held

Campaign meetings reminiscent of old times, at which refreshments were served, were held in every section of the city and oratory long pent up was unleashed. Two mass meetings were held both sponsored by the Astoria Beneficial Club, an organization which has 100 per cent of its members voters. At one of these meetings candidates for the various offices, or their proxies, appeared and addressed the voters assembled.

Cracks At Club

The Richmond Democratic League circulated a form letter on the eve of the election in which a wise crack was made at the Astoria Beneficial Club for sponsoring these mass meetings. The paragraph of the letter which is generally construed as a covert attack on the Astoria Club, reads as follows:

"It has been, and will be the continued policy of the Richmond Democratic League to work consistently through the 365 days of the year to advance the Negro's political life and future. We do not sit idly by until the campaign is hot and then hold mass meetings, which cannot possibly function to the best interests of our group. We check up on candidates and office-holders all the time, and do not wait until election time to interview and ask them questions on the race issue. We ask you to line up with this modern and scientific movement for political advancement of Negroes."

Another Criticism

The League which is headed by Mr. Roscoe C. Jackson is also being generally criticised for mailing marked sample ballots to voters urging them to vote for the candidates of the League. It is pointed out that most of the candidates endorsed by the League were defeated. Many voters resent this apparent effort to control or dictate their votes.

Election Day

Planet 8-7-37

On election day the precincts which poll the major part of the Negro vote were surrounded with workers who strove assiduously to convince the voters to put a check mark by the name of their favorite candidate. Workers stuck to their posts throughout a sultry day. Others scoured the city bringing voters to the polls.

More Voters Movement Started

Richmond, Va.

The final returns were hardly announced before a movement was started by influential Negroes to launch a year round campaign to enlist recruits to the number of Negroes already qualified to vote. It is reported that a meeting will soon be held to perfect plans for the campaign and to secure the services of an experienced organizer as director.

Suggests Editorial

The PLANET'S morning mail on Wednesday contained a letter from a white reader with a suggested editorial on the result of the Congressional Contest. The caption suggested was: "Satterfield Wins Over Clyde Saunders For Congress".

Successful Candidates

The successful candidates in the contests which attracted most interest among Negro voters were: Saxton W. Holt, Dave E. Satterfield, Jr., Walter Christian, John C. Goode, Herbert L. Hulce, J. Herbert Mercer, Walter B. Gentry, Ernest B. Bass and John G. Saunders. The defeat of Wilbur G. Griggs for City Sergeant was a disappointment to most Negro voters as was the defeat of E. Glenn Jordan for the House of Delegates. Minatree Fowlkes, Jr., received practically the solid Negro vote for the house.

Disfranchisement By Fiat

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

IT was our belief that Virginians of the Democratic faith had about given up the old-fashioned notion that the party was "the white man's party," and, in fact, the practice generally has been counter to the theory in most parts of the state. Evidently, there are some sections where the legal standing of the Negro as being eligible for the party of his choice has not become known or accepted.

The notable series of cases originating in Hampton and decided there in the local court or by the Virginia State Supreme Court of Appeals, as well as federal court decisions, answered once and for all the question of the right of the Negro to register without extra-legal impediments, and to vote in the Democratic primaries as well as in general elections.

The Surry County Democratic Committee late last month issued an edict that Negroes henceforth will not be allowed to vote in Democratic primaries in that county. At certain precincts they were allowed to vote in the August 3, 1937, primary and at others were refused a vote, the refusal of the latter being upheld by the county committee which went further to "make it explicit that no Negroes will be allowed (hereafter) to vote in a Democratic primary."

This action was taken, according to reports to The Herald, published at Surry, because "it is contrary to the party plan" to have any but white persons participate in Democratic primaries, and "is violate of the best traditions in Virginia and conducive to the demoralization of the Democratic Party within the state."

While doing this the committee set up the claims that racial antagonism was not involved, and justified its action further by referring to the resolution of the Democratic State Convention in 1932, re-affirmed in 1936, limiting Democratic membership to white persons.

The action of the Surry Democrats and particularly of the State Convention in persisting in this lily-white fiat is an anachronism. Most of the more enlightened localities ignore the point and Negroes are participating without any great harm being noticeable.

To confine Negro political activity to parties other than the Democratic party is virtually to disfranchise them where the other parties' activity and influence is merely prefunctory.

The enlightened public opinion of the state does not support this type of political proscription, and it is high time that the more benighted Democratic sectors and the leadership responsible for the State Convention policy be awakened to the realities of the present day.